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No. 7788.—Vol. L. WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 5, 1890. Price One Penny.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE. (The National Theatre.)
EVERY EVENING, at 7.15, and EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY at 1.30, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. Augustus Harris in previous years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged attraction in himself—Messrs. Dan Leno, Herbert, Jun., Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, Jun., Leopold Brothers, Payne (Clown), and Campbell; Misses. Vernon, Faudelle, Ellicott, Rhoda, Cay, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 A.M. all day. LAST TWO WEEKS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN OF HONOUR, by Robert Buchanan. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LUVERSAN. Messrs. Hernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Armstrong, Gurney, Harwood; Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING; Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle (unreserved), 2s. 6d. Gallery, 1s.
MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT and following SATURDAY, at 2.30

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.)
THE DEAD HEART—the Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (135th time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hardy) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Wyndham.
THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. David James, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Ferrers, E. Vining. Preceded at 7.30, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, L. Chapuy; Mesdames E. Terris, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of OUR BOYS SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2 o'clock.

GAIETY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farrell, Miss Maxine Hood, Mrs. Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verney, Miss Blanche Massey, and Mrs. Lesly Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. Edward Terry.)
(Manageress, Miss Grahame.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestock, and F. Kerr; Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Messrs. Mackintosh, M. A. Gifford, Helen Leyton, Rose Dearing, Oscar Acre, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
TO-DAY, at 2 and 9, THE BUNGALOW, by Fred Horner. The greatest success of modern time. Received with immense bursts of laughter and applause. At 8 and 8.15, ISAAC'S NOSE. Doors open at 2 and 7.45. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. Gatti, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 150th Time. Mr. George Alexander. Messrs. Marius, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Rhys Hellond, M. Ende, H. Russell, James East, W. S. Northcote, J. Northcote, and Pendered; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Keeley, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Thorne.)
THIS EVENING, at 7.45, MEADOW SWEET, at 8.30, CLARISSA. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. E. B. Thalbera, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Grove, F. Gilmore, and Fred Thorne; Mrs. Winifred Emery, Mesdames Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Bryer, F. Weymss, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Banister. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. R. Benson.)
EVERY EVENING, at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Incidental Music. Messrs. Brydone, Miller, Benson, Ross, Howard, Athol Forde, Black, Wm. Phillips, Tomkins, Grenville, Smart; Mesdames Grey, Ferrar, Dene, Geraldine, Townsend, Westlake Mellon, Mitchelmore. MATINÉES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. N.B.—HAMLET, NEXT and EVERY THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.
To-day, at 2.30 and 7.45, Hermann Pettitt and George R. Sims' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Beveridge, Ross, Fred Shepherd, George Dabbel, E. Meyeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Hensley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Fryer) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mrs. Langtry.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Lamb, Acmbeaster, Zoe; Messrs. Cautley, Beauchier, Sugden, Bindloss, Brodie, Fowles, Gay, Leeds, Cumings, Lawford, Grover, Lingham, Arnolfini, Erlynne, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Horace Sedger.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Asadi and Miss Connie d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Allen James, T. A. Shale, A. C. Heedon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 3,700.

GARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Hare.)
THIS EVENING, at 8, A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves, Mr. R. Catheart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. E. W. Royce, Mr. F. H. Knight, Mr. R. Harding, Mr. Byron, Miss Blanche Horlock, Miss F. Hunter, and Miss Kate Rorke. Preceded, at ten minutes past 8, by DRAWN FACES. Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. R. Knight; Miss Blanche Horlock and Miss Carlotta Addison (specially engaged) will appear. Doors open 7.40. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. Compton.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.
Messrs. F. S. Willard and John Lart, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. John Lancaster.
THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
Mr. Willard. Messrs. Mackintosh, E. W. Garden, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Hughes, Annie Hughes, H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St. Aug. Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. Griffiths.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Henry J. Leslie.)
EVERY EVENING, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Florence Ivaldi, Maud Holland, Mrs. Sidney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, Albert Christian, J. Le Hay, Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 8.15, the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by James Albery, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby A. Bromley-Davenport, and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Goldney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 5,724. 100th Performance on SATURDAY NEXT, March 8.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.)
TO-NIGHT at 8, 550th performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Mervin, Mr. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Ayresworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farrell, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Quinton; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO THE RESCUE. Mr. R. Blythe, Mr. F. Farren, Miss F. Harrington and Mrs. Phelps. N.B.—SPECIAL MATINEE of AUNT JACK SATURDAY NEXT, March 8. Doors open at 8, commence at 8.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. George Alexander.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8, MRS. DOLLAR'S MANIA. At 8.15 and 9, DR. BILL.
Messrs. Frederick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Grattan and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robins, Cicely Richards, Lecrecia, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Gracie Murrelle, Bianca Graves, Edith Kenwood, and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.45.
MATINEE TO-DAY (Wednesday), and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D'Arbertson.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.
"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina, Pezzoni; Miller, Sarasco, Marie, Thorgate, and Spotti, and Signor De Vincenti. Varieties by BRUE and RIVIERE, the Brothers Rolando, Mrs. Alexander Mack, Marvelle's Blackbirds and the Dog "Bags," the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, Arthur Thorne, Marie Lloyd, George English, the Eddy's Troupe, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets. AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. Katti Lanner. Music by M. Leopold Wenzel. Millies. Rolando and Berthon de Soria, Signor Albertieri, and Signorina Malvina Cavchard. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. Saville Clarke, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.
GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—G. H. Macdermott, the popular actor and vocalist; Lydia Yeamans, queen of song; the Martinos, in a novel musical absurdity; Verbino, the wonderful boy; the Brantfords, American variety artists; Ottaway and Pepper; Abe Daniels, musical clown; Dora Fielding; Arthur Turner; Petrie, the marvellous mimic; May and Laverna, trapeze concert; Sam Torr; Deane Brand, operatic vocalist; Mauru, equilibrist; Prof. Wingfield's Dogs; Rolando and Schofield; Nelly Chapman; Ottaway and Pepper; Albert and Edmund Troupe, the Eloge at Miss Kate Chard, the famous opera bouffe prima donna.
EVENINGS at 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £2 2s.

ST. PANCRAS THE AVENGER.

St. Pancras, "the avenger against false oaths and perjury," has not been appealed to in vain. "St. Pancras has the high honour," said Sir William Marriott ten days ago, "of being the "first constituency to express its opinion on the Commission "by the Member whom they are about to return to Parliament." The result of the Commission would be, prophesied Mr. Raikes a week later, "to sweep the Irish party out of the House of Commons." "It was upon the Irish question," said Mr. Graham, the Tory candidate, on the very eve of the poll, "that he had elected to stand or fall. It would be with full knowledge of this issue, and of all its consequences, that the electors would go to the poll." Such was the appeal—so direct and plain as to make any argumentation about it absurd. The answer has been as clear as the appeal. The constituency was polled out yesterday almost to a man; no less than 83 per cent. of the electors on the register, it is calculated, recorded their votes—a higher ratio we believe than has ever before been reached in a London election. The result has been a "sweeping away" as Mr. Raikes predicted; but a sweeping away of Mr. Raikes's man. The backers of Pigottism mustered in full force. But the rally of the Liberals outnumbered them. Instead of returning a Member by a majority of 261 to vote for Mr. Smith's motion, the constituency has, by a majority of 79, sent Mr. Bolton to vote for Mr. Gladstone's amendment. That is the answer to Sir William Marriott's appeal by St. Pancras the Avenger.

The answer will not merely have some little passing effect at Westminster, but it will reverberate throughout London. There was no possibility of "hedging" over this result. We stated fully and frankly, as soon as the vacancy occurred, and we repeated the statement on Monday, that North St. Pancras was a test case. It was one of sixteen. If we could not carry the one, there was no reason to suppose that we could carry the fifteen. We have carried the one, and there is now every reason to hope that we shall in due time be able to carry the fifteen. But the hope will require hard work for its realization. We have done well in St. Pancras, but so have our opponents—as the following comparative table will show:—

	1885.	1886.	1890.	Compared with 1886. 1885.
Liberal Vote	2,380	1,815	2,637	+ 824 + 257
Tory & Unionist Vote	1,915	2,074	2,578	+ 504 + 663

The one unsatisfactory thing in the figures is the steady increase in the Tory vote. But we hasten to add that this increase by no means bears out the forced exultation which the Unionists raise over it. The *Standard* is overjoyed because "it does not look as if the Tories were declining," and is half-inclined to treat Mr. Graham's defeat as a "moral victory" on this score. Such remarks afford one more instance of the haphazard and unscientific way in which the science of by-elections is studied. If the circumstances of the London elections were other than they are, the line taken by the *Standard* might be reasonable; but being what they are, those circumstances make the harping on the maintenance of the Tory vote entirely nugatory. The bottom fact to be remembered in this matter is that the Liberal seats in London were lost in 1886 not owing to Tory recruits, but owing to Liberal abstentions. In the sixteen constituencies of which North St. Pancras was the test example, the Liberal vote in 1886 was smaller by 12,000 than the Liberal vote in 1885. The Tory vote, meanwhile, increased by only 2,500. It was the sulking in their tents of 9,500 Liberals (if we assume all the new Tories to have been "Unionists") that lost London. It is the rally of these abstainers that will win London. The supremely satisfactory thing about St. Pancras is the evidence it affords that the rally is now an established fact. The evidence of by-elections is cumulative. One swallow does not make a summer; but we have never heard it argued that swallow after swallow does not. There have now been nine by-elections in London, admitting of comparison with 1886; and the significance of the St. Pancras election is that the evidence afforded by it agrees precisely with the accumulated evidence of all the by-elections taken together. In St. Pancras we have seen an appreciable Tory increase, altogether outmastered by a sweeping Liberal rally. And this is precisely what we see in the London by-elections as a whole, the result of which has been to show, in round numbers, a Tory increase of 1,500 as against a Liberal increase of 7,000. With a rally going on at this rate, we can afford to let the Tories pick up even as considerably as they did in St. Pancras. Indeed, in some respects the high Tory poll is an advantage. It precludes all possibility of a pretence on their part that Mr. Bolton's victory was a "snatch" one or a "scratch" one. The supporters of the Pigottists strained every nerve, and brought up their last man. They were beaten simply because they were too few for the forces of St. Pancras the Avenger.

PERSIA AND THE PERSIANS.

An Interview with the Hon. George Curzon, M.P.

"Yes, it agrees with me," said the member for Southport to one of our representatives, who had called on him at his cosy chambers in St. James's-place to congratulate him on his safe return from his Persian travels, and had complimented him on his robust appearance. Mr. Curzon has indeed come back from Persia in the pink of health, and he quite commiserates his fellow legislators who have not enjoyed similar opportunities for clearing away the cobwebs. Not that he has been travelling only for health or pleasure. Mr. Curzon is a serious person, as devoted to acquiring as he is ready to impart information. That he can do both to good purpose is proved by the valuable work on Central Asia which we reviewed some months ago, and by the able letters which he has since been contributing to the *Times* on "Persia and the Persian Question." These letters have had only one fault: they have been so long that probably only the few conscientious readers of the whole *Times* and nothing but the *Times* have read them all. Our representative asked Mr. Curzon, therefore, to summarize for the benefit of "the general reader" the conclusions he had brought back with him from the land of the Shah:—

The Anglo-Russian Competition in Persia.

"My general conclusion," replied Mr. Curzon, "is that Persia is a backward, and, I may almost say, a decrepit country. It has manifold resources, but they remain untapped. The mode of government is imperfect" "And corrupt?"—"Yes, and corrupt: though it is easy for us Westerns to exaggerate the seriousness of the corruption. The system of giving presents for offices received is as well established in Persia as—well, as other less direct forms, perhaps, of the same thing are with us; and any corruption above the regulation standard is at once conspicuous. But the great obstacle to the development of Persia is the unfortunate competition between England and Russia in the counsels of the Shah. As soon as any concession to the English is mooted, the Russian representative goes at once to the Shah and says:—'If you grant this, my Imperial master will require some corresponding concession elsewhere.'"

The Common Interests of Persia and England.

"But do not we, on our side," asked our representative, "play the same game?"—"We have not the same advantage," replied Mr. Curzon diplomatically; "we have no armed force in the immediate background to support our arguments, no terror of the loss of a Persian province to appeal to. Russian influence at Teheran has a physical sanction behind it; English influence has to rely on moral suasion—on persuading the Shah of the community of our interests."

"And what is this community of interests?"—"Our interest is to keep things as they are." "To have Persia as a buffer, you mean?"—"Yes." "But Persia is not an armed buffer, is it?"—"No: the Persian army is as bad as it could possibly be—ill-clothed and ill-fed. There is good stuff enough in the raw material; when officered by the English the Persians have fought well, but that was fifty or sixty years ago. But now the Persian army does not count; it is, I should imagine, decidedly the worst standing army in existence." "Then Persia is a buffer which would collapse with any impact?"—"So far as Northern Persia is concerned," replied Mr. Curzon, "that sooner or later may, no doubt, fall to Russia. What British interests require is that Central and Southern Persia should be strong enough to stand alone, were Northern Persia cut off. The only way in which that can be done is by developing the resources of the country by British capital. It is in this that the community of interests lies between ourselves and Persia; and the Shah is, I believe, beginning—slowly, but certainly—to adopt this point of view."

The Shah: "Every Inch a King."

"And what impression did you form of the Shah? You saw him, of course?"—"Yes, I attended one of his levées, and had the honour of a private audience with him." "You had seen him over here, too?"—"Yes, I had met

ART NOTES.

From the Flowery Land.

It cannot be said that the demands of the prevailing Japanese craze are not amply met by artists in point, at least, of quantity. Mr. Menpes, Mr. Wores, and now Mr. Alfred East, have followed each other in quick succession, and the sketching-harvest of yet another Japan-trotter is already in sight. This is Mr. Fripp, who has completed his trip round the world, and has brought back with him a collection of pictures of the Flowery Land.

Mr. Schmalz's Pilgrimage.

The purpose for which Mr. Herbert Schmalz is gone to Jerusalem is to paint a picture on the theme of "Calvary."

The Art of the Footlights.

What is there in scene-painting that is so fascinating to the easel-picture artist? As a rule the transition has been the other way, but since the days when Clarkson Stanfield painted scenery for Charles Dickens several members of the Academy have coquetted with size and distemper. Within the last two years Mr. Alma Tadema and Mr. Herkomer—to say nothing of Mr. Keeley Halswelle—have provided the setting of plays; and now I hear of Mr. E. J. Gregory setting aside his exquisite work in favour of the scenic artist's brush, for the benefit of some amateur performance at Maidenhead.

A National Picture.

Speaking of scene-painters, I am reminded that the late Mr. John O'Connor, R.I., who was as well known on the stage as in the picture gallery, spent a large portion of the closing years of his life in painting a picture of the Jubilee service in Westminster Abbey. The point of view from which it is painted is the south transept, taking a wide view of the Royal group, the scenic effects being, of course, admirable. Ought not this picture, at present the property of the artist's widow, to be acquired for the nation or for some public gallery? It would, I believe, be willingly parted with for such a destination. It is on view for a time at 38, Abercorn-place, N.W.

Mr. Seymour Lucas.

Mr. Seymour Lucas's Academy picture is approaching completion. It represents one of those scenes, so vividly described by Philippe de Commines, in which Louis XI. was constantly the chief actor. The King, who sought popularity with the lower classes, as much from genuine kindness as from policy, would often-times drop into some farmer's cottage and invite himself to share their humble meal. Such an incident Mr. Lucas has depicted—the superstitious King, affable in expression, crafty in look, is seated to the right, smiling at the fear of a little maiden who has run for protection to her mother, while the father looks round from the chimney-ingle, where he is superintending the hanging cauldron.

From Botticelli to Bushey.

Professor Hubert Herkomer, A.R.A., who returned from Italy last week—where he was interested more profoundly in the works of Botticelli than of any other master—is now hard at work on his Royal Academy picture. This is a large landscape painted, like so many others of his pictures of scenery, in the neighbourhood of his house at Bushey.

Artists at War.

The important step taken the other day by the Société des Artistes Français should effect a reconciliation, if anything could, with the "Meissonier gang," as it is called. The Société has "climbed down" and accepted the principle that the awards given by the exhibition juries should carry with them the usual equal privileges in the Salon. Will M. Meissonier accept the proffered hand? It is doubtful, seeing that he is at last Dictator, as well as, in his own opinion, the Head and Front of Modern Art.

"Persicos Apparatus."

The officials at the Kensington Museum have been busy for the last few days unpacking and assorting a most interesting collection of Persian pottery, acquired for the nation at a very considerable cost. The examples are not numerous, but the quality is superlative. A "dragon teapot," some waterbottles with bear-shaped top-pieces, and some bits of lustre-painted blue-ware are pronounced to be of great beauty. The whole collection, of which these form but a small portion, was bought at Teheran by M. Richard, a wealthy Parisian merchant, who some time ago fixed his residence in the Persian capital and adopted the Mahommedan creed.

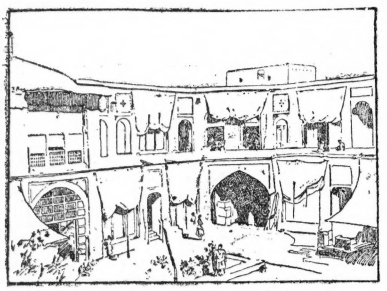
How the Museum Secured its Prize.

M. Richard sent his collection to the Paris Exhibition, where connoisseurs contemplated it with wonder and envy. Here were indeed ceramics from the delf-like brown jug to vases of the most delicate turquoise blue, which Jews might kiss and infidels adore. The South Kensington authorities were prepared not only to adore but to acquire. They found several competitors already in the field, the most formidable being Mr. Godman, whose choice examples were recently seen at the Burlington Fine Arts Club. But they made their purchases and what remained were sold at Christie's last week, the sale creating no small stir in circles whose worship of Persian pottery is a cult almost approaching a craze.

him at one of the country houses." "And how did he strike you in his own home?"—"The Shah," replied Mr. Curzon, "is every inch a King. I was very much struck by this; the dignity of his bearing, and the obeisance even of the most exalted of his subjects, were very remarkable. For the rest, he is an enlightened and a cultivated monarch,—with nothing of the barbarian about him, and nothing in his manner of life which is especially Oriental, except his restlessness—his sudden movements from one palace to another, from one shooting-box to a second." "And, besides the Shah, did you see any of the great personages in Persia?"—"In Persia no one counts," replied Mr. Curzon, "except the Shah and the Grand Vizier for the time being. The present Grand Vizier is a most able and enlightened man."

OF PERSIAN POSTS AND POST-HORSES.

Leaving these high matters and personages, the conversation turned for a while on Mr. Curzon's travelling experiences. "I was away for five months altogether," said Mr. Curzon. "I left the Central Asian Railway at Askabad, the capital of Trans-Caspia; explored the frontier; spent a week at Meshed—an interesting place, because if Russia ever absorbed it she could then advance on Herat without violating Sir West Ridgeway's Afghan frontier—and then travelled along caravan routes." "On horseback?"—"Yes, on horseback always." "Was that very costly?"—"No: travelling and living in Persia are both exceedingly cheap. On all the caravan routes there is a system of posting with a tariff fixed by the Government. The tariff is one



THE POST OFFICE CARAVANSERAI: SHIRAZ.

kran (the monetary unit in Persia; = about 7*d.*) per horse per *farsang* (that, you know, is our old friend the 'parasang,' = about four miles). Say you travel with three horses—one for yourself, one for your servant, and one for the postboy—and cover sixty miles a day. That works out to less than 30*s.* a day, which is certainly very cheap." "Then you were travelling alone?"—"Yes, all the time. It is impossible to do work when you are with travelling companions." "Wasn't it rather lonely?"—"I never found it so. The humours of the Persian horse—an animal which varies, I may say, only from the tolerable to the execrable—were for one thing a constant source of amusement—its manœuvres to escape the postboy's whip, its shifts to leave the road, its posing as the tired beast."

PERSIA "AS SAFE AS PICCADILLY."

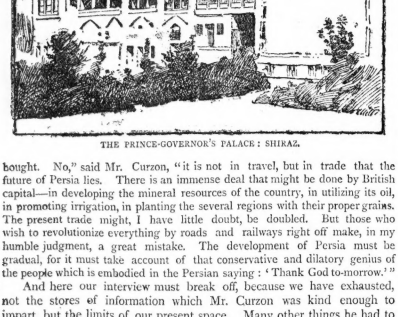
"And did you carry arms?"—"I carried a pistol," replied Mr. Curzon, "but the only thing I shot with it was a wretched donkey left by the roadside, which I put out of its agony. It is terrible, the cruelty of the Persians to their beasts. They think nothing of leaving a donkey to die of starvation." "But you had no traveller's adventures?"—"No; in the mountainous regions a good deal of care is necessary, but along the caravan routes Persia is as safe as Piccadilly." "But the accommodation is hardly so good?"—"No, indeed. The accommodation consists of four walls of mud, with holes for doors, but with no doors in them. Many a time I thought how perfectly a room in a Persian post-house corresponded to Tennyson's line:—

Four-square to all the winds that blow.

Chairs or tables or beds there are none. You take your sack with you. When you 'go to bed' you buy some chopped barley—chopped barley is the one thing you can always get in Persia—stuff your sack with it, and lie down thereon. As for food, eggs can generally be had; attenuated fowls sometimes. But on the whole a traveller in Persia who did not take a store of tinned provisions with him would fare very badly indeed."

THE FUTURE OF PERSIA.

"Then you cannot say much for Persia as a field for tourist travel?"—"No," said Mr. Curzon. "I met two of the tourist Cook's people exploring the country from that point of view; but neither for sport nor for picturesqueness does it offer any attractions. But of course no one on pleasure bent should visit Persia in the winter, as I did. The local colour of Persian poetry, such as Omar's, is the colour of spring—with roses and 'many a garden by the water blowing;' but in the winter the eye positively aches for green. The winter immunity from insects is a great boon, but it is dearly



THE PRINCE-GOVERNOR'S PALACE: SHIRAZ.

bought. No," said Mr. Curzon, "it is not in travel, but in trade that the future of Persia lies. There is an immense deal that might be done by British capital—in developing the mineral resources of the country, in utilizing its oil, in promoting irrigation, in planting the several regions with their proper grains. The present trade might, I have little doubt, be doubled. But those who wish to revolutionize everything by roads and railways right off make, in my humble judgment, a great mistake. The development of Persia must be gradual, for it must take account of that conservative and dilatory genius of the people which is embodied in the Persian saying: 'Thank God to-morrow.'"

And here our interview must break off, because we have exhausted, not the stores of information which Mr. Curzon was kind enough to impart, but the limits of our present space. Many other things he had to tell—of the ruins of the past, of the domestic life of the people in the present, of their arts and manufactures, of their architecture and taste; but these things will be written in the book which Mr. Curzon will bring out before long—a book which should prove very valuable, since he is the first English traveller for a generation at least who has made a systematic study on the spot of the political and social state of Persia. Mr. Curzon's camera, too—"nobody" (he says) "should travel nowadays without a 'kodak'"—was busily employed, and he has scores of instantaneous views to draw upon for the illustration of his pages.

CADBURY'S COCOA is absolutely pure and unstamped with. It has stood the keenest analytical tests, and contains only one of the concentrated essence of the Cocoa bean, the flavour being developed and the aroma improved by a special process of roasting.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The absurdity of the Government's position in refusing to treat as "criminals" those whom it denounces as such, was carried yet a step further by the Home Secretary's speech yesterday. According to Mr. Matthews's reading of the Report, the Irish members are as directly implicated in murder as is a man who invites another to partake of a dish which the former knows to be poisoned. Mr. Matthews's interpretation is indeed utterly absurd, and is contradicted by the conclusions of the judges themselves. But that is not the point. The point is that the Home Secretary believes his Irish colleagues to have been proved guilty of direct complicity with murders—a state of things which (if he believes it) he rightly described as not merely "grave," but "alarming." But is it not a scandalous thing that Ministers should not have the courage to clear the House of men whom they accuse of murder in the second degree? A correspondent in another column applauds Ministers for their "neutrality." Since when, we should like to know, was it the duty of the Executive to be "neutral" when the punishment of crime is concerned?

"Willing to wound, but yet afraid to strike," Mr. Smith's defence that the Government is unable, rather than afraid, was demolished last night by Mr. Picton. We could not indict the Irish members, Mr. Smith had said, even if we would, because "the bill specially provided that all who gave witness of the truth *would* receive indemnity for so doing." But instead of *would*, Mr. Smith should have said "*shall be entitled to*." That is to say, witnesses only receive certificates of indemnity if they ask for them; and, said Mr. Picton, "no certificate of indemnity had been asked for by any one of the Irish members." So Mr. Smith cannot slink off on that score.

Here is another instance of the "two voices" with which Ministerialists speak about the *Times*:—

MR. WALTER LONG.	MR. ELLIOTT LEES.
He commended the action of the *Times* for its courage and independence, and declared that that journal was deserving of the thanks of all men desiring the good of their country.	The charge was calumnious, and ought never to have been brought; and he condemned that the criminal recklessness with which it was brought by the *Times*.

Why does not Mr. Long show his sincerity by sending his hundred guineas to the Grand National Indemnity Fund which (we understand) is to be raised on behalf of the Paymasters of Pigott?

So the great Forth Bridge has been opened—the new Colossus whose mighty lace-work of steel, full thirty fathoms above high-water mark, strides over two channels, each a third of a mile in span. It was appropriate and picturesque that it should be opened on a blustering March day, which blew the ladies' hair across their faces and the Prince's hat well-nigh off his head. That was the bluff welcome, the stormy christening, which the arch-adversary hastened to bestow on the structure which puny man has reared to do battle for him above the weltering Firth. Who is to win—Man, or the strong, unwearing Foe who takes such terrible vengeance on the least flaw of eye or cunning which the mortal allows to creep into his bulwarks? From far off Tay a hoarse menace whistled past the Prince and his company at the Firth of Forth. But here at least, with our great cradling cantilevers made strong against a pressure of seven thousand tons from either side, we may safely defy it. It is forty years ago yesterday since we bridged the Menai Straits, and that work still fronts the wind unshaken.

The Tithes Bill, which is published this morning, is not very big, and not very small. It is the original bill of last session (the abolition of distress), plus Mr. Gray's amendment (transference to owner), plus semi-optional, semi-compulsory redemption. The bill will be attacked from both sides; and unless Lord Salisbury can guarantee that the objections of the high and dry no-redemption men will not prevail in the Lords, it is not impossible that the bill of 1890 will share the fate of its forerunner of 1889.

The silent power of obstruction possessed by permanent Government officials is nowhere better illustrated than in the history of the efforts to get police anthropometry adopted in this country. As Mr. Spearman's article in this month's *Fortnightly* shows, the system has been in full working order in France for seven or eight years, and was a conspicuous unquestioned success from the very moment of its introduction. Why has it not yet been extended to England? Members of Parliament have pressed for it, and the newspapers with one accord have praised it, but—a couple of highly-placed officials did not like the novelty of the idea, and through their silent obstruction the adoption of this almost perfect device for identifying criminals has been postponed year after year. Unfortunately, it is not possible to name the obstructives in print, though the matter is barely a secret; but the whole circumstances suggest very forcibly that it would be an advantage to the country if the compulsory retirement system of the army could be extended to the Civil Service.

Here is news we have been expecting for some time:—

Arrangements are in progress for the acquisition by the British South Africa Company of the property and rights in Nyassaland and elsewhere of the African Lakes Company. It is understood that holders of shares in the Lakes Company are to receive, in respect of such holdings, a like number of the shares of the British South Africa Company.

In other words, one more tentacle of that octopus company of Mr. Rhodes has reached out across the map of Africa and securely affixed itself. The consolidation of British interests in the regions of Upper South and Lower Central Africa, under the auspices of such a Colonial Imperialist as Mr. Rhodes, is a security for their active and, we hope, prudent prosecution. We hear rumours, meanwhile, of offers made by some person or persons not named to buy out the interest of the nearly bankrupt company which at present carries the German flag on the Western coast. Is this another tentacle, hovering dimly over Namaqua and Damaraland?

"How it could be 'very possible' and 'quite possible,'" asked Colonel Hill yesterday, "for a man of honour to say that which he believed to be inaccurate for the purpose of deliberately endeavouring to mislead the House was a question which he left the right hon. member for Mid Lothian to explain." But Colonel Hill has addressed himself to the wrong quarter. He should ask not Mr. Gladstone, but the member of the other House who, on the occasion of the Schouvaloff agreement recalled by us the other day, stated to the House of Lords what he knew to be untrue for the purpose of deliberately misleading it. If Colonel Hill really wants to know how it could be possible for a man of honour to do such a thing, let him write and ask Lord Salisbury.

THE "TIMES'" CRIMINAL ASSOCIATES.

LAST NIGHT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. BY AN OBSERVER.

THE House of Commons is evidently determined to get through the Commission debate with all convenient speed. The motion for precedence was passed after a few murmurs. Mr. Sexton pleaded the cause of the Irish National Teachers (whose bill had been down for to-day). Mr. McLaren—on whom Mr. Woodall's mantle seems to have fallen—plaintively urged the hard case of the advocates of women's franchise, and Mr. Bartley, "as an Englishman," protested in his burly, Saxon way against wasting so much time on a "sham fight" for the purpose of allowing the Commission counsel to repeat the long speeches which they had already given to the court.

A JOKER IN EARNEST.

This remark somewhat disconcerted—as far as anything can disconcert—Mr. Lockwood, who rose to continue the debate on the Report with a stirring speech, which cannot but enhance his reputation. After a little pleasant chaff of the Attorney-General for his skilful operation in removing the fetters from his tongue, and of Mr. Chaplin for his much expurgated speech, Mr. Lockwood slowly grew more serious, and worked himself up into a very bitter mood. His shafts were all aimed at the Attorney-General, whom he attacked with great trenchancy, bidding him go to school to the First Lord of the Treasury if he would learn how to apologize, and comparing the words of his original accusations and the final findings with great effectiveness.

"PARNELLISM AND CRIME" ONCE MORE.

Mr. Matthews followed with a very legal interpretation of the Report. The amendment was merely "part of the truth peppered with inflammatory adjectives," while the Government, on the contrary, wished to record "the whole truth." He then proceeded to show us the whole truth by expanding at great length the charges which have been found to be true, and by the usual methods of "constructive" proof, so satisfactory to the legal mind, showed conclusively that the Irish members were after all, though he acquitted them from complicity with the Invincibles ("thanks! thanks!"), little better than criminals. "If I incite a man to cross a bridge which is rotten, or to eat out of a poisoned dish, am I not guilty of murder?" Mr. Matthews's speech was punctuated throughout with jeering reminders of his Fenian days. Mr. Fowler's reply was well worthy of a speaker who, if he were a little less noisy, would be among the most effective debaters in the House. In answer to Mr. Matthews's "poisoned dish" problem, Mr. Fowler pertinently answered, "Yes, if I knew it," and clearly showed that by the Commissioners' finding the Irish members never consciously used intimidation as a means to crime.

THE REAL CONSPIRATORS.

A dreary interval was filled by the speeches of Mr. Picton, Mr. Elliott Lees, whose abilities lie more in the hunting-field than the House of Commons, and Sir Walter Barttelot. Sir Walter was followed by Mr. Tim Harrington, who promised us some recherché morsels about the connection of the *Times* with the American Irish. They proved to be a valuable and very formidable collection of telegrams translated from the cypher transmitted between the *Times* agents in America and Mr. Soames in London. The Attorney-General's face grew longer and longer as these telegrams were read out, showing that during the November and December of 1888 the *Times* was making desperate efforts to retrieve the loss of Pigott as a witness by hunting high and low for witnesses in America. The two witnesses most desired seem to have been General Millen and Mr. P. J. Sheridan. These men were referred to as "P. M." and "Henry" in the telegrams, and seem to have had one object only in offering their evidence—the attainment of ready cash. P. J. Sheridan wanted £50,000—£25,000 for his ranches and sheep, and £25,000 more—and General Millen £10,000, for giving evidence. Telegrams to this effect were sent to Mr. Soames ("Assert") by Thompson, the *Times* agent, on 19th November and 12th December respectively. On 28th December Soames telegraphed—"Counsel thinks Henry most important witness; he must first know what he can prove." (This, said Mr. Harrington, connected the enterprise with Sir Richard Webster.) On 12th the *Times* agent was told that Hoare, the British Consul, would "give him names:" the agent found difficulties: but another telegram insisted. (This to connect the enterprise with the Government.) Sheridan seems to have pressed and to have been pressed, but none of these efforts seems to have come to anything. As the *Times* agent was slow in coming to the point, the wily Sheridan seems to have concocted a story of his being condemned to death by the Clan-na-Gael, and being obliged to leave America. These negotiations were carried on, apparently, well up to the closing scenes of the Commission, and if the £50,000 had been forthcoming Sheridan would perhaps have been brought over to blacken the Irish members. Why the money was not forthcoming is no mystery to those who have observed the financial ups and downs of the *Times*. At one time the agent thought he had him. "Veni vidi vici" he joyfully telegraphed; but the fox slipped away again. What about our criminal connections with the Americans, asked Mr. Harrington, when this is your record?

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ATHENÆUM CLUB AND MR. WOULFE FLANAGAN.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Allow me, as one of those who yesterday blackballed Mr. Woulfe Flanagan at the Athenæum Club, to take exception to the implication in your paragraph on the subject, that his exclusion was dictated by merely party feeling. Probably most of those who voted against him voted also at the same ballot as I did for the elections of Lords Lansdowne and Dunraven, both of whom are far more influential opponents of the political views you attribute to us than perhaps Mr. Flanagan is likely ever to become on his own account. The latter was blackballed because a more than sufficient number of members were of opinion that the writing of libels, now admittedly false and disproved, and of the most infamous nature, was a disqualification for membership of a club the character of which we wished to maintain. It was urged on behalf of Mr. Flanagan by his active supporters that he was only instrumental in putting into literary form statements for which others were more responsible than himself. No doubt this consideration influenced many good-natured members. Others, however, thought that it was a view of the responsibilities of the profession of journalism which should not commend itself to a club so representative of literature as ours. And perhaps it would be nearer the mark to say that Mr. Flanagan owed to party feeling the large amount of support which he obtained than to suggest that he was blackballed for no better or more legitimate reason.

I enclose my card, and am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London, March 4. A MEMBER OF THE ATHENÆUM CLUB.

"THE RIGHT REVEREND" LEADER OF THE HOUSE.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—The *Pall Mall Gazette* leader of to-day speaks scoffingly of the "sanctimonious mediocrity" and "platitudinarian righteousness" of Mr. Smith. Surely it is not for a paper that professes to be guided by moral and religious motives to make fun when a man's politics are, as is universally admitted, guided by high principles and religion. You sneer, moreover, at the "full value to his party of Mr. Smith." Thank God, a party or a community is still the better and the stronger for having a few righteous men in it! And in spite of the apparent implication to the contrary of the *Pall Mall*, I believe that there are some righteous men to be found among the Gladstones, and that were it not so that party would be "nowhere" in the country. The course chosen by the Government may or may not be the best, but surely it is not illogical. The result of the Commissioners' Report—as most moderate men expected—is a drawn battle. If the resolution deplored the "lying charges" of the *Times*, it would equally have to deplore the "criminal conspiracy" and incitement to crime, &c., of which members have been found guilty. Were the substantive resolution passed, and *all* the amendments then tacked to it, the House would pretty fairly express the true state of the case, but the method would be cumbrous. The Government prefer neutrality: and neutrality is certainly logical. H. H.

Lincoln's-inn, March 4.

[Our remarks were directed not at Mr. Smith's righteousness, but at his habit of cloaking unrighteous acts with righteous pretences. And will H. H. inform us what "high principles and religion" they are which "guide" Mr. Smith in his refusal to rebuke evil-speaking, lying, and slandering?—ED. *P.M.G.*]

BOOKS, PICTURES, AND BRIC-À-BRAC.

NOTES FROM THE SALE ROOMS.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY and Co., in their rooms in Wellington-street, Strand, are selling a miscellaneous collection of books to-day and to-morrow. They are not what are known among collectors as "big pieces," but among them are some interesting books and out-of-the-way volumes. Note may be made of Bondanelli's "Lettres Moscovites," Paris, 1736, a book that was rigidly suppressed in Russia, and the authorship of which has also been attributed to Count Locatelli and to the Count d'Asti. A handy set for the journalist is the "History and Proceedings of the House of Lords" (1660-1742), 8 vols. 1742-43; and "History and Proceedings of the House of Commons" (1660-1743), 14 vols. 1742-44. A rare little book is Bowyer's "Origin of Printing" (1776). Another item is Piazza's "Account of the Inquisition in Italy" (1723).

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For Americans the most attractive lot in the sale is a copy of the "Bible Translated into the American Virginian Language, with Psalms in Meter." (2 vols. in 1. Cambridge, U.S., 1663, New Testament, 1661.) Copies of this edition have sold for upwards of £200, and even the reprint of 1685 has brought that sum.

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Those who care for that which may be described as variety bric-à-brac might look in at Christie's to-day and to-morrow. They have a mixed sale made up in part of the collections of Mr. B. Button, of Pall-mall-place. The items include miniatures, arms, and metal work, a few bronzes, and some items of porcelain and faience, though by far the most interesting portions of the collection is the old English embroidery and needlework—an art that our great great-grandmothers excelled in. There are some good specimens of last century work.

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To-day Messrs. Phillips will sell in their rooms at 73, New Bond-street, a number of costly jewels that were designed for and exhibited at the late Paris Exhibition, including diamonds of great brilliancy, white and coloured pearls, Burmese rubies, sapphires, and opals. The jewels are all finely set, and include bracelets, brooches, stars, necklaces, flowers, birds, and other designs that are common to modern jewellery work. Some of the stones are splendid.

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In their rooms at 21, Old Bond-street, Messrs. Robinson and Fisher devote to-day to the dispersion of some useful modern household furniture that is worth the consideration of thrifty housekeepers. It includes one of Hampton's cottage pianos, some decorative items, three hundred volumes of books, and a Stanhope phaeton by King and Co. The library of Sir Edmund Antrobus is sold to-day in Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's Leicester-square rooms. A few of the books are interesting. The chief item of the sale is a set of Cook's "Three Voyages Round the World." But there is a set of Voltaire, 1768, with Gravelot's plates, and a set of Molière, with Boucher's illustrations.

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In the same rooms there will be sold on Thursday and two following days (Saturday and Sunday excepted) a miscellaneous collection of books. It includes many rare pamphlets, some manuscript sermons, a first edition of Lord Tennyson's poems in two vols. (Moxon, 1842), and the Dillon Society's edition of Boccaccio. The library of the American Exchange, late 449, Strand, is also included. In it there will be found a few interesting books relating to America that are not readily picked up.

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But the most important book sale of the week is that of Mr. W. B. Scott's library, that takes place in Messrs. Sotheby's rooms on Friday and Saturday. To book lovers the collection is of more than ordinary interest. Mr. Scott had a love of books, and he secured some prizes. Worthy of consideration are many volumes with a kind word or signature "from the writer" to his friend W. B. S. Among these are Wm. Allingham's "Days and Nights;" "Songs, Ballads, and Stories;" Leigh Hunt's "Poems;" W. Linton's "Poems," put into type and printed with his own hands, Wm. Morris's "Earthly Paradise," "Love is Enough," and "Sigurd;" and Swinburne's "Poems and Ballads," and "Songs of the Springtides." Among the items that artistic folk will care to look over is a beautiful set of Beham's illustrations to the Bible, and his sixty-six coloured woodcuts of the Papal hierarchy and monks, 1563. There are also the proof sheets of Rossetti's poems privately printed in 1869, with his corrections and additions. Some few of the poems were never published and exist only in this volume, which is unique; so also is the volume of proof sheets of William Morris's "Story of Sigurd." Interesting among the first editions are copies of some of the rarer volumes of Browning, Byron, Coleridge, Goldsmith, Leigh Hunt, Keats ("Poems," and "Endymion"), Charles Lamb, Landor, Shelley, Swinburne, Tennyson, Spenser ("Faërie Queene" and "Complaints"). An odd little volume is Adah Isaacs Menken's "Poems," with a carte-de-visite of the authoress and Mr. A. C. Swinburne inserted in it. For the costumier there is a volume containing about 1,000 drawings and studies of British costume and architecture from the earliest time down to 1860, chronologically arranged.

NEW BOOKS.

TWO BOOKS ON IRELAND.

"The Home Ruler's Manual," by R. Barry O'Brien (Kegan Paul) is an attempt, fairly successful, to compress into a volume of under two hundred pages a statement of the case for Home Rule, details of the main arguments in common use, and a reply to the allegations of opponents. Special attention is paid to Ulster, to the various societies which have arisen in Ireland since the Union, and to the connection between agrarian crime and legislation or its absence. It is a handy book for reference, temperately written, and likely to have a good sale.

"About Ireland," by E. Lynn Linton (Methuen and Co.), is a recantation of Home Rule by an accomplished writer, who admits that she was formerly "influenced by the seductive charm of sentiment and abstract principles only." The new influences are the insight into the landlords' case, gathered in Ireland, the Ashbourne Act, and the logic of particular instances, carefully culled for her by friends. Mrs. Lynn Linton has evidently yet very much to learn when she can say, "Nowhere . . are tenant farmers so well protected by the law as in Ireland," and that in recent remedial measures "justice to the landlord has gone by the board." She makes merry on the fate of the "English Tourist" earwigged by peasants—a jest which was hardly wise in one who was earwigged by the landlord class.

TWO FRENCH NOVELS IN ENGLISH.

"A Noble Woman." By Henry Gréville. Translated by Albert D. Vandam. (Chatto and Windus.) This is a charming story in the authoress's best manner. The scene is laid in Russia, and, as in "Dosia," the hero is a harebrained young Russian officer of high rank. As a punishment for one of his tipsy escapades he is made to marry the girl he has insulted, and is then promptly sent to Siberia. How the wife's noble behaviour finally wins the husband back from hate to love, and how she finally obtains his pardon, is the motive of the story. It is well told, the interest never flags, and the finale is most artistic and touching.

"A Last Love." By Georges Ohnet. Translated by Albert D. Vandam. (Chatto and Windus.) M. Ohnet's last story is somewhat disappointing. It is clever, as the mere drawing out of so small a plot into a long story shows. It is a long drama with three actors: Armand, the husband; Mina, the wife; and Lucie, the girl whom the husband loves. Minor personages and scenes play a small part; it is a long study of character, a story of love passing through "cleansing fires" of affliction. The only artistic fault is the character of Armand. It seems to us that at the best he is but a weak, vacillating creature, and most unworthy of the deep affection of two more than usually lovable women. He has just sufficient determination to abstain from seeing his idol, but his wife sees that the sacrifice is beyond him. The unfortunate Mina, after vainly attempting to cure her husband of his misplaced attachment, finally resigns herself to martyrdom, and destroys herself after recalling her rival. The story is unpleasant, and even the nobly-drawn character of Mina herself hardly redeems it. Mr. Vandam's translation of this and the preceding story deserves, on the whole, praise; but why does he indulge in such a Sairey Gamp-ism as "unbeknown." Why not "dispogie," "wale," "chimley-piece," and all the rest of them?

WELDING METALS BY ELECTRICITY.

WE referred at the beginning of the year to a process of welding metals by electricity which was on view at 71, Fanshaw-street, Hoxton. Since that time the invention has been seen by a large number of experts, who have been very much impressed by its possibilities. Although only a year on the market about a hundred machines are already in use, or are being constructed, in the United States. In this country there are only two specimens, the one on exhibition, and another which was secured by the London and North Western Railway Company. The inventor, who is Professor Elihu Thomson, the well-known American electrician, has utilized a simple natural law. The pieces of metal to be welded are placed in the circuit, and as the electric current which is passed through speedily develops heat at the point of contact, which is the point of greatest resistance, in a few seconds the metal becomes red hot. As the welding temperature is reached the two pieces of metal are forced together by the turn of a screw, and a weld is effected with a rapidity which is absolutely surprising. As the heat is first developed in the interior of the parts to be welded, the union is as complete at the core as at the exterior. As a contrast to the ordinary and laborious method of welding nothing could be greater. It is possible with the apparatus not only to weld iron and steel, but metals which have hitherto resisted attempts at welding and have had to be brazed or soldered. Even different metals can be welded to one another, and thus results can be obtained which have hitherto been regarded as impossible. The machines are so graded that the smallest wire or bars over three inches in diameter can be dealt with. There are also special machines for car axles, shafting, and heavy work generally. An electric current of low tension is used, so that there is no danger of shock. The operator has absolute control over the heat, any desired temperature being maintained by the simple movement of a lever. It is also a striking fact that the heat is so localized at the weld that the end of a very short rod may be handled immediately after the operation. The tensile strength of the welds, as shown by mechanical tests, is equal to the very best welding by the ordinary system, and there are advantages in the avoidance of dirt which is detrimental to the perfect welding of metals. Many other features might be pointed out, but it is sufficient to say that the invention is expected to mark a distinct departure in metal working.

THE TEA DUTY AND THE BUDGET.

Judging by the numerous inquiries that reach us daily through the post and otherwise (write Messrs. Brooke, Bond and Co.) considerable curiosity is felt on the subject of the tea duty, and this is natural. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer is at present probably the sole depositary of his secret, and the forecasts of the shrewdest observers are only more or less plausible guesses. There is, however, one point—and that a very important one to all dealers in tea—upon which precedent may be some guide. The point is this: In the event of reduction or abolition, will the alteration take instant effect, or will it be prospective? We find that the proposal for the reduction of the tea duty from 2s. 2½*d.* to 1s. 9*d.* made on the 16th of April, 1853, was not carried into effect until the 1st of June, 1853. The proposal for reduction from 1s. 9*d.* to 1s. 3*d.* was made on the 6th of March, 1857, by Sir George Cornewall Lewis, and carried into effect on the 6th of April, 1857. It is true that in 1863 the reduction then proposed came into effect at once, but when the last reduction, from 1s. to 6*d.* took place, in 1865 (the proposal was made on the 28th of April in that year by Mr. Gladstone, who described tea as "the most valuable and most healthful of all luxuries of the poor") Mr. Moffatt moved an amendment that the time should be extended, as it would otherwise be very unfair to grocers who held large stocks, and he explained that in 1863 the circumstances were different, as the reduction had been expected by the trade, who were prepared for it. The amendment was accepted by Mr. Gladstone, and the 6th of May was struck out and the 1st of June substituted. Our remarks will do nothing to clear the uncertainty with which the Budget prospects are clouded, but they perhaps afford some hope that any alterations decided on will not be too vexatiously abrupt. It is interesting to remark that in 1865 Mr. Gladstone estimated the loss to the revenue by a 6*d.* reduction—supposing it were all loss—at £2,300,000; but he took the recovery upon that loss as £225,000, and he estimated the consumption of tea at 92,000,000 lb. A quarter of a century later—in 1889-90—the home consumption of tea may be stated at 185,600,000 lb., and the revenue therefrom as £4,629,901: thus showing, roughly, that a duty of 3*d.* per lb. would realize in 1890 as much as a 6*d.* duty produced in 1865.

The Ladies' Corner.

WOMEN BARBERS.

A lady whom I know is thinking (writes Miss Mantalini) of opening a haircutting saloon for gentlemen, and having a trained army of lady hairdressers to wait upon them. There is no doubt that a staff of lady haircutters would attract customers. There is no reason at all why women should not be employed to "barber" men. Women barbers are largely employed to cut women's hair, and a man's hair is easier to cut than a woman's. Of course the women barbers would have to gain proficiency in shaving, and the question is where will they get their experience now that Barnum's bearded lady has left England. The popular theory is that the youthful barber gets his hand in on a sheep's head. But then sheep's heads are expensive, and even shaving a sheep's head would not give the practitioner sufficient dexterity to deal with the blue chin of a strong-bearded Italian.

A SURPRISE IN SPRING FASHIONS.

The secret concerning French spring fashions has as yet not been communicated to a waiting world, the fact being, as several of the high priestesses of the goddess (that is, prominent Parisian dressmakers) declared a day or two ago that those things are always hidden from the public until the first fine days in March convince women that they must not wait a day longer before they exchange their winter garments for new clothes. (When will that be, in *this* March, we wonder?) All sorts of rumours may be afloat as to what will be worn, but nothing seems to be certain except that the Parisian modistes are determined to profit by what they saw last summer at the Exhibition, and to spring a surprise on their clients. The "costumes exotiques" of the fair "Japs," the Arab ladies, and all the rest of the Orientals—which have already given an additional stimulus to the taste for wide hanging sleeves—are to be imitated (of course, in an "adapted" form), and flowing draperies, bodices the reverse of tight-fitting, and sleeves of the "angelic" kind are to be the order of the day.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

AUTHOR OF "JOHN HALIFAX, GENTLEMAN." "Olive." (Macmillan and Co.) [A cheap edition of a novel first published in 1850. Cloth. Pp. 432. Illustrations. Price 3*s.* 6*d.*]

BUXTON, SYDNEY, M.P., and George Stapylton Barnes. "A Handbook to the Death Duties." (John Murray.) [A popular sketch of the history of the Death Duties, a description of them, and suggested reforms. Cloth. Pp. viii. 109.]

CLAYDEN, E. J. "By the World Forgot." (Frederick Warne and Co.) [A story in one volume. Paper covers. Pp. 176. Price 1*s.*]

LOCH, C. S. "How to Help Cases of Distress." (Longmans, Green, and Co.) [A handbook for almoners and others. Fourth Edition. January, 1890. Cloth. Pp. cviii.]

MILLIGAN, ALICE L. "A Royal Democrat." (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.) [A "sensational Irish novel" in one volume. Paper covers. Pp. 268. Price 1*s.*]

ROGERS, SAMUEL. "Italy: a Poem." (Routledge.) [A volume of Routledge's Pocket Library. Half cloth. Pp. viii., 318. Price 1*s.*]

RUTLAND, Duke of (Editor). "Correspondence between the Right Hon. William Pitt and Charles, Duke of Rutland, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, 1781—1787." (Blackwood.)

SHARP, R. FARQUHARSON (Editor). "The Lady of Lyons and other Plays by Lord Lytton." (Walter Scott.) [A volume of the "Canterbury Poets" series. Cloth. Pp. xxx., 322. Price 1*s.*]

"TALES FROM BLACKWOOD." (Blackwood and Sons.) [Four short stories. Paper covers. Pp. 268. Price 1*s.*]

TYNDALL, M. C. "Rhymes Real and Romantic." (Arrowsmith.) [Pp. 130. Price 5*s.*]

Bord's Pianos.—35 per cent. discount for cash, or 15*l.* per month (Second-hand 10*l.* 6*d.* per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated List free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Piano exchanges.

Publishers' Announcements.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN'S LIST.

COMPLETION OF VOLUME I.

THE CENTURY DICTIONARY.

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From "THE ATHENÆUM" of March 1st.

"The 'Century Dictionary' bids fair to be far and away the largest and best general and encyclopædic dictionary of the English language. . . . Though cheapness has not been aimed at, the intrinsic merits of the work make it one of the cheapest publications ever issued. The vocabulary seems to be almost as large as that of the 'New English Dictionary,' since the American scheme admits a greater number of encyclopædic items than the English. . . . It is calculated that the 'Century,' when complete, in the latter part of next year, will comprise about 30,000 more articles than the complete work which now assigns pre-eminence in this respect. . . . The first volume, which is now under review, has been evidently edited with all the care and skill to be expected from the supervision of one of the most distinguished philologists in the world. . . . It may be taken for granted that the work of so competent a staff is independent, except where acknowledgment of indebtedness has been expressed. . . . The work, notwithstanding its calculable variety and difficulty, is singularly free from error of any kind. The typography is thoroughly satisfactory, and the general appearance of the volume is handsome and attractive. The selection of the subjects for the pictorial illustrations cannot be too highly praised. Many of the choicest works of art to be found in Europe have been reproduced in a style worthy of their excellence, and their introduction to the public through the medium of a popular dictionary ought to have an appreciable effect in elevating national taste both in England and America. The cuts appended to the zoological articles are first-rate, and the birds, monkeys, and snakes prove as attractive to the child as to the savant; while the numerous entomological illustrations, portraying insects in various stages, ought to be of practical use to farmers and gardeners. To judge from the volume before us, this great work will be characterized throughout, and in every respect, by a lavish expenditure of labour and capital, of rare ability and technical skill, all turned to the best advantage by careful and capable attention to the uniform realization of a thoroughly judicious plan."

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A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS IN EGYPT.

The town of Guizeh is much attacked by locusts. During the past five days the authorities have destroyed six tons of them. They still continue to arrive from the East. In ploughing, large quantities of nests of their eggs have been found in the earth. Exposure to the sun destroys the eggs.

PLAYING-FIELDS FOR LONDON.

The Conference of Clubs on the subject of playing-fields for London will take place in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, at eight o'clock to-night. Lord Brassey will take the chair.

THE SHAH'S LITTLE FAVOURITE.

According to advices from Teheran the little favourite of the Shah, whose appearance excited great interest everywhere during the Shah's visit to Europe, has been betrothed to his Majesty's youngest daughter. In honour of this event the Shah gave a great festival, which in its splendour is said to have surpassed even those mentioned in the "Arabian Nights." Nasr-ed-Din presented his little favourite with his most beautiful estate in the neighbourhood of Teheran. At the same time he handed him a document pronouncing a curse upon any future ruler of Persia who would dare to deprive him of this property.

M. ZOLA'S NEW BOOK.

Zola's new novel, "La Bête Humaine," just published, brings the number of volumes printed for that author up to over one million. It now appears (writes the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Graphic*) that there is not the slightest chance of the election of Emile Zola to the vacant fauteuil at the Academy, the election of the historian Thoreau d'Angin being assured by the formal pledges of the "partie des ducs." I have been assured by an Academician that two votes only will be given to Zola, whilst the novelist himself does not hope for more than three at the very outside. He will, however, present him self again and again, until he has gained his object.

A SELECT COMMITTEE ON CAPITAL AND LABOUR.

Mr. Bartley, the Conservative member for North Islington, gave notice last night in the House of Commons of his intention to move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the relations of capital and labour, with special reference to the various profit-sharing schemes which have been put forward as solutions of the great labour question.

In furtherance of its scheme for the formation of a "Conciliation Board" for the settlement of labour disputes, the London Chamber of Commerce now proposes to procure the election upon it by the working men of London of twelve representatives of labour, and it asks trade organizations to send delegates to a meeting on April 16 for this purpose.

AMERICAN NAVAL COMMANDER CHARGED WITH CRUELTY

Mr. Tracy, secretary of the United States Navy, has ordered a court of inquiry into the charge brought against Commander McCalla, of the United States sloop *Enterprise*, of having cruelly treated the crew of that vessel.—*Reuter.*

RAILWAY COUPLINGS.—PARLIAMENTARY RETURN.

A parliamentary return is issued this morning in pursuance of Section 32 of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1888, relating to coupling appliances on wagons owned by railway companies on June 30, 1889. In England and Wales the figures were as follow:—Old forms of coupling on waggons, 379,153; improved appliances, 37; number of waggons belonging to the companies, 379,835; percentage fitted with automatic and non-automatic improved couplings, 0; guards, brakesmen, and shunters employed, 13,055; men individually supplied with shunting poles, 11,157. Scotland:—Old forms of coupling, 101,056; improved appliances, 0; wagons belonging to companies, 101,056; percentage fitted with automatic and non-automatic improved couplings, 0; guards, brakesmen, and shunters employed, 2,137; men individually supplied with shunting poles, 1,999. Ireland: Old forms of coupling, 13,172; improved appliances, 935; waggons belonging to companies, 14,007; percentage fitted with automatic and non-automatic improved couplings, 6 per cent. automatic; guards, brakesmen, and shunters employed, 610; men individually supplied with coupling poles, 0.

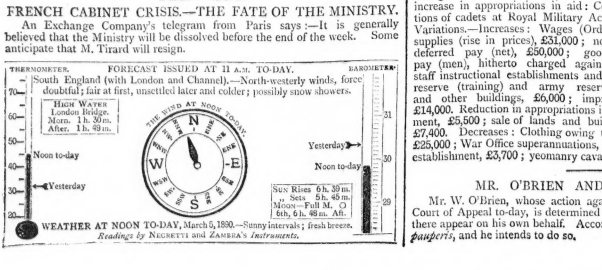
THE WORKING MEN'S CLUB AND INSTITUTE UNION.

Members of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union and their wives enjoyed a very pleasant social evening last night by the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, at Toynbee Hall. Among the attractions was a concert, at which Mrs. Glynn Vivian, Miss Zoe Fyne, Mr. Ede, and Mrs. Bevington Atkinson assisted. A more interesting portion of the programme to some of the members, however, was the distribution of prizes for essay writing, designing, and sporting contests by Mr. Hodgson Pratt. It is well known that the Club Union is an association of about four hundred clubs and institutes banded together to protect their own interests. It possesses a circulating library; arranges for Saturday afternoon excursions; gives legal advice free to its members; and instructs them in all sorts of useful knowledge.

FRENCH CABINET CRISIS.—THE FATE OF THE MINISTRY.

An Exchange Company's telegram from Paris says:—It is generally believed that the Ministry will be dissolved before the end of the week. Some anticipate that M. Tirard will resign.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.


South England (with London and Channel).—North-westerly winds, force doubtful; fair at first, unsettled later and colder; possibly snow showers.
HIGH WATER London Bridge. Morn. 1h. 20m. After. 1h. 49m.
THE WIND AT NOON TO-DAY.
Noon to-day
Yesterday
Yesterday
Noon to-day
SUN Rises 6h. 39m. Sets 5h. 48m.
MOON—Full M. 5th, 6h. 48m. Aft.
WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, March 5, 1890.—Sunny intervals; fresh breeze.
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FOURTH EDITION.

THE LOSS OF THE STEAMER "QUETTA."

SPLENDID ACTS OF HEROISM.

THE ROCK NOT MARKED ON THE CHART.

A Reuter's telegram from Melbourne says:—The opinion expressed by a number of captains and pilots, to the effect that the rock upon which the *Quetta* struck is not marked on the chart, is confirmed. The excessive number of fatalities among the ladies on board is attributed to the fact that at the time of the disaster they were sitting under an awning, which carried them down with the sinking vessel.

Some accounts received at Melbourne of the loss of the *Quetta* report splendid acts of heroism on the part of the passengers, but state that the natives on board ruthlessly thrust aside the ladies and children who were trying to enter the boats, and became a frantic and undisciplined mob. The captain and pilot positively assert that the rock on which the vessel struck was not marked on the chart. An incessant search has been kept up for survivors of the disaster, but all efforts have been fruitless, although several bodies have been found. The burial service was read over the scene of the wreck. According to the latest intelligence the total number of the saved is 149, and of the lost 133. The *Quetta* sank broadside on, some plates having been torn out by the collision with the rock.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN NEW YORK.

DAMAGE £60,000.

A fire broke out yesterday in the dry goods quarter of New York. Several buildings have been destroyed, which were occupied by Messrs. W. and C. Mayer, importers of bacon, Messrs. Eaton, umbrella manufacturers, and other firms. Damage has been caused to the extent, it is estimated, of £60,000.

DEATH OF MR. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

We deeply regret to announce that Mr. Abraham Lincoln, son of the American Minister in London, has succumbed to his long and painful illness. He died shortly after eleven o'clock this morning.

SIR RICHARD OWEN SERIOUSLY ILL.

We are sorry to hear that Professor Sir Richard Owen is in a very precarious state of health, and that at his advanced age (eighty-five) his friends entertain but small hopes of his recovery.

SIR JAMES INGHAM.

Sir James Ingham's family have been informed by his medical men that no hope can now be entertained of his recovery.

A FRENCH PROTECTORATE OVER DAHOMEY.

A Reuter's telegram from Paris says:—At yesterday's sitting of the Colonial Congress a resolution was passed favouring the immediate establishment of a French protectorate over Dahomey. Captain Binger pointed out that an expedition to that country, if undertaken at once, would involve no expense worth considering, whereas later on it would be a very costly matter.

BEHRING SEA TO BE CLOSED BY PROCLAMATION.

A Reuter's telegram from Washington says President Harrison will shortly issue a proclamation closing Behring Sea to persons not authorized to kill fur-bearing animals.

THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR INVITED TO CONSTANTINOPLE.

An Exchange Telegraph correspondent writes from Constantinople:—The Sultan has written to the Emperor of Austria that he will be most happy to meet him at Constantinople.

THE PROTECTION OF WORKMEN IN GERMANY.

Baron von Berlepsch, the new Minister of Commerce, is stated to have been instructed to draft some bills dealing with the labour question on the basis of the opinions given by the experts before the Council of State on the subject of legislation for the protection of workmen. Pending the enactment of laws providing increased protection for workmen, it is intended to introduce provisional measures, including the establishment of workmen's committees.—*Reuter.*

PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS—A TOUR IN THE SOUTH.

Mr. Blaine, Secretary of State, seconding the initiative taken by the Southern States, has invited the delegates of the Pan-American Congress on the adjournment of the conference to make a tour through the south similar to their northern tour in October last.—*Reuter.*

MR. G. F. TRAIN'S TRIP ROUND THE WORLD.

A Dalziel's telegram from New York says Mr. George Francis Train started to-day on his trip round the world.

RACIAL DISPUTES IN OKLOHAMA.

Intelligence from the recently opened settlement of Oklohama announces that great excitement prevails among the white settlers there in consequence of the rumoured schemes for the colonization of the territory as a negro district. The whites have banded together for the purpose of ousting the coloured inhabitants, who have already been the victims of some outrages.—*Reuter.*

THE GERMAN ANTI-SOCIALIST BILL.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* to-day states that the Government will demand fresh military credits from the new Reichstag, and will make another attempt to obtain the passing of the Anti-Socialist Bill.—*Reuter.*

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

The Army Estimates for the coming financial year have been issued this morning. The total sum required is set down as £17,717,800, being a net increase of £339,768 as compared with last year's estimate, the increase in the number of men being 1,201. The increases due to policy and administration are: stores (magazine rifles and ammunition) £241,000; wages (ordnance store establishments) £14,000; additions to regimental numbers, including native battalion for Hong Kong for part of year, £13,000; general staff instructional establishments and miscellaneous services, £2,400; army reserve training £19,000; growth £6,300; militia (extension of recruit drill), £10,000; volunteer corps (camps), £10,000; rewards to inventors, £9,400; interest on defence loan, £5,000; ordnance store and other buildings, £24,000. Decreases—Works and buildings: Charges removed from army estimates to be otherwise provided for, £88,000; increase in appropriations in aid: Colonial contributions, £63,600; contributions of cadets at Royal Military Academy and College, £3,200. Automatic Variations.—Increases: Wages (Ordnance Store Establishments, £2,000); supplies (rise in prices), £31,000; non-effective charges (officers), £93,800; deferred pay (net), £50,000; good conduct pay, £10,000; engineer pay (men), hitherto charged against loans for works, £4,800; general staff instructional establishments and miscellaneous services, £7,100; army reserve (training) and army reserve (growth), £6,300; ordnance store and other buildings, £6,000; improved sanitation of barrack buildings, £14,000. Reduction in appropriations in aid: contribution by Egyption Government, £5,600; sale of lands and buildings, £8,200; purchase of discharges, £7,400. Decreases: Clothing owing to partial completion of reserve stocks, £25,000; War Office superannuations, &c., £8,232; transport, £5,900; medical establishment, £3,700; yeomanry cavalry, £1,500.

MR. O'BRIEN AND LORD SALISBURY.

Mr. W. O'Brien, whose action against Lord Salisbury will come on in the Court of Appeal to-day, is determined to carry the case to the House, and will there appear on his own behalf. According to rule he must plead *in formâ pauperis*, and he intends to do so.

THE EIGHT HOURS MOVEMENT ABROAD.

SOLDIERS PLACED AT THE SERVICE OF MASTERS.

The outbreak of a number of strikes throughout Austria-Hungary is expected within the next few weeks. At a meeting of about 5,000 journeymen bakers held in Vienna last night, a resolution was passed to strike for an increase of wages. The authorities are making preparations to place a few hundred military bakers at the disposal of the masters. There is now a movement on foot among the labouring classes in that country to proclaim the 1st of May a workmen's holiday. The Workmen's Association at Budapest have resolved on that day to march in a body through the streets bearing banners with the words, "Eight hours' work, eight hours' rest, eight hours' sleep."

The New York platers have made an agreement, to begin on May 1, that eight hours shall be a day's work, at two shillings per hour, or sixteen shillings per day. The agreement is to last for two years. They had a procession and a meeting in New York yesterday to celebrate the agreement.

THE FORTH BRIDGE LUNCHEON MENU CARD.

The menu card for the luncheon which followed the opening of the Forth Bridge is a genuinely artistic production, the work of Mr. W. S. Black, Queen-street, and Mr. Skeoch Cumming, George-street, Edinburgh. It is a small eight-page quarto of finely toned Japanese paper, and Messrs. Constable and Sons have lithographed it beautifully in colours. A full-page illustration occupies the front, with the view in the background of the Castle and Royal Scottish Academy Galleries as seen from the west end of the Waverley station platform. On the platform in the foreground is a group of the directors of the guaranteeing companies, with the Prince of Wales in the centre, and behind them, steaming past the platform, is a North British Railway engine "Progress," with the "Through carriage Aberdeen to New York via Tay Bridge, Forth Bridge, Channel Tunnel, and Alaska." The second and third pages are occupied with portraits of the eminent engineers of the Forth Bridge, garlanded round them of Sir John Fowler with oak leaves, and that of Mr. Benjamin Baker with laurel. Over the portrait of the former are the verses—

> Take the fruition of thy life, for from the throne of fate
> The mandate is confirmed which does thy course perpetuate.

And beneath the verses—

> He is in truth the best of human race
> Who aye maintains a mild and kindly mood,
> Man's goodness is not in the charms of face;
> The temper's sweetness is the fount of good.

Of Mr. Baker similarly it is declared—

> Thy judgment fair lays every project well.

And again—

> The cloud when thirsty seeks the purple ocean,
> Nor bows its head to sip the humble dew.
> Hearts that are stirred by proud and high emotion
> Stoop not to mean things, nor for trifles sue.

The portraits are in a dark tint, and the garlanding and the letterpress in gold. On the fourth and fifth pages are the menu and toast lists. The menu is finely printed in colours, and surrounded with an elaborate border in gold, in a fanciful design, which exhibits at top figures of Vulcan, with sledge-hammer, seated on his anvil; and of Neptune, with his trident, seated in his chariot, drawn by three careering horses, and a Triton blowing his "wreathed horn." Beneath them is the appropriate couplet:—

> With water and dry food content,
> I'm monarch of the sea and land.

Down the side of the card the figure of a mermaid is worked into the convolutions of an elegant scroll, and at the bottom the figures of a sphinx and a mermaid are the principal features in the ornamentation. The toast list is treated with the same elaborateness. The border at top is ornamented with a representation of the bridge shown against the rising sun, and flanked by figures typical of learning and industry. Beneath is the verse:—

> In far-off Greece I met an ancient sage,
> And said—O, that I ripe with the love of age,
> What suits man best in every state? Said he,
> Wouldst hear the truth? 'Tis taciturnity.

The border at the side and bottom are set off with heraldic devices, in which are introduced the arms of the principal Scottish towns, with the verses—

> The fully wise can in a word attain
> Things that a hundred hosts attempt in vain.

MR. LABOUCHERE AS AN ADMIRER OF THE PREMIER.

"Curiously enough," writes Mr. Labouchere in *Truth*, "I am a fanatical admirer of Lord Salisbury in some matters. He is tricky, shifty, and untrustworthy. As a private individual, I make no doubt that he is the soul of honour, and that his word is his bond. As a statesman, however, he seems to hold that he has a right to deny anything which he deems it to be of advantage, either to the State or to his party, not to be admitted. This accusation is no new one."

THE BISHOP OF CHESTER ON TRAMPS.

The Bishop of Chester presided at the annual meeting of the Chester Charity Organization Society, held at Chester yesterday. In moving the adoption of the report, his lordship said that his experience in Cardiganshire was that almost every tramp who came to the town explained to him that he had formerly been known by his father or brother, never personally to himself. His invariable rule was to say, "If you knew my brother or father, and will get a letter showing that you were known, and favourably known?—then only to be known was insufficient—(laughter)—"for each one I will give you 5s." He had never had a letter produced. He only broke that rule on one occasion, when a tramp produced letters which seemed in a very marked way to evidence his authenticity and genuineness, and he assisted him fairly liberally. He should like to impress on all sorts and conditions of men that the greatest enemies of charity, in the country at all events, were, first of all, the impostor, and next the indolent and weak-minded giver. He thought they ought to be reminded of their very great responsibility in indiscriminate "charity."

THE BLACKBALLING AT THE ATHENÆUM CLUB.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* points out that "the last similar excitement over the intrusion of politics into a non-political club was in connection with the *Times* also, but it was then the Tories, and not the Liberals, who used the fatal 'pills.' During the spring of 1878, when the Jingo agitation was in its hottest and most bitter phase, Mr. John Walter was 'up' for the Athenæum; and, because the journal with which his name is identified was considered by the wilder worshippers of the Beaconsfield cult to have been lukewarm in opposition to Mr. Gladstone's Eastern policy, he was as remorselessly dealt with as was the candidate black-balled on Monday."

MEMORIAL TO A WOMEN'S LABOUR ADVOCATE.

Among those who are working for the cause of women's trade unions there has long existed a desire to establish a suitable memorial of the late Mrs. Paterson, the pioneer of the movement which has lately attracted so much attention. It has been decided (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*) that the memorial shall take the form of a central hall to be called the Paterson Hall, which shall form a centre for the different women's trade unions and which may be used for social as well as for business purposes. At a meeting held in the Indian room of Lord Brassey's house in Park-lane yesterday afternoon, the scheme was discussed and advocated by Lord Brassey, who presided, Mr. Hodgson Pratt, and others interested in or engaged in the movement. Already £1,000 has been subscribed towards the hall, and a lady promises £100 a year for five years, provided five other ladies will each give £100.

A VOLUNTEER COLONEL'S GENEROUS GIFT.

The Tower Hamlets Volunteers (Royal Engineers) has just received from the honorary colonel (Colonel North) a cheque for £500, which just now comes in very opportunely. The regiment, nearly 900 strong, hopes if possible to join the Brighton marching column under Colonel Althorpe, but at present no arrangements are complete nor orders issued.

A CASE FOR DR. SMILES.

To supplement the paragraph regarding the career of Mr. William Arrol, the Forth Bridge contractor, which appeared yesterday, it may be stated that in 1868 he started in business with a capital of £85, saved from his wages. With this he bought an engine at £18 and a boiler at £25. For some time his staff consisted of himself and a workman. Seventeen years after his staff consisted of 4,300, engaged on the Forth Bridge.

Mr. Fernando Yznaga, brother of Lady Mandeville and Lady Lister-Kaye was married in New York yesterday to Miss Mabel Wright, a reigning beauty. It is understood that they will sail on the *Teutonic*. They received presents from the Astors, Belmonts, and Vanderbilts.

THE BRITISH EXPEDITION AGAINST THE SOMALIS

A MARCH INTO AN UNKNOWN DESERT.

An Aden telegram to the *Manchester Guardian* says:—The force which was despatched by Brigadier-General Hogg to Bulhar, on the Somali coast, to punish a tribe for outrages committed, left Aden on January 11 and disembarked at Zeyla on January 15. The country in which operations had to be conducted is little known; and the enemy, being during the colder season in the habit of constantly moving their kraals and wandering in small parties were not easily found in large numbers, thus increasing the difficulties of the punitive expedition, which was equipped in the most thorough manner for the work before it. The force marched at once to Warabad and Oodwadla, the cavalry recovering cattle and capturing two small breech-loading guns and a few prisoners. Thence they proceeded to Bulado, from which point the cavalry (Aden troop) marched to Sorisia, thirty-two miles distant, where they surprised a large body of the enemy, twenty of whom were killed. Their kraals were burned and all their cattle, 100 camels and 2,000 sheep, were captured. In returning to Bulado the rearguard of the cavalry, which was in charge of the sheep, was attacked and severely handled, losing one native officer and eleven men killed and three wounded. The whole force then marched from Bulado to Gerissa, destroying the wells at the latter place. They next proceeded to Hassem, where their zareba was attacked by the enemy during the night, the enemy killing five men and slightly wounding one British officer, one native officer, and fourteen men of the 17th Bombay Infantry. The enemy, however, were driven back with heavy loss by the fire of the rifles and Gardner guns. Afterwards the force burned some kraals, captured some prisoners and 100 camels, and on the 2nd returned to Zeyla. Her Majesty's ship *Ranger* proceeded to the coast and shelled some of the enemy's kraals in the neighbourhood of Dongarita. She afterwards landed some bluejackets, who destroyed the wells, thereby clearing the coast of the offending tribe.

THE WILKESBARRE MINE DISASTER.

ALL HOPE ABANDONED.

All hope of rescuing the twelve men imprisoned in the mine at Wilkesbarre which took fire on Monday, has been abandoned, and the pit is now being flooded to extinguish the flames. The construction of the mine and the rapid spread of the fire made it impossible that the unfortunate miners could be still alive.—*Central News Despatch.*

FUNERAL OF LORD DACRE.

The funeral of the octogenarian Lord Dacre took place at one o'clock to-day in the churchyard of Kimpton, near Welwyn, in the presence of a vast concourse of the neighbouring clergy, gentry, and poor, among whom he was very popular. The body left the Hoo at half-past twelve, the principal mourners being Lady Dacre, Viscount Hampden, the Hon. Henry Brand, Lady Elizabeth Byng, Mr. Freeman Thomas, the Duchess of Westminster, Colonel the Hon. Charles Byng, Captain the Hon. Lionel Byng, Viscount Anson, Lord Chesham, Mr. H. R. Yorke, Mr. Henry Cavendish, Mr. James Cavendish, and the Rev. H. C. Fellowes. At the entrance to the churchyard the body was met by the Rev. Lionel Stevens, Vicar of Kimpton, who preceded it into the church saying the opening sentences of the Burial Office. The service was most reverently conducted, and large numbers of wreaths and crosses of flowers were sent from friends in all parts of the country. The Cambridgeshire tenantry, as well as those on the Hertfordshire estate, were present, and mourned one of the most generous of landlords.

THE ABANDONMENT OF A BARQUE IN THE ATLANTIC.

Captain Kennedy and the crew of the Greenock barque *Hebe*, were landed at Queenstown this morning by the steamer *Colonist* from New Orleans, which rescued them on the 24th ult., in lat. 24 and long. 40, from their sinking vessel, which had been dismasted in a hurricane five days previously. The *Hebe* was laden with fish for Oporto, from Newfoundland.

CHESS AND CLIMATE.

Mr. Tschigorin, who has arrived in New York from Havana, has been interviewed, and is represented to have declared that he attributed the poor play witnessed in the recent chess tournament to the influence of the climate.—*Reuter.*

NEXT CONGREGATIONAL UNION MEETING.

The committee of the Congregational Union have accepted an invitation from Swansea to hold the autumnal meeting in that town. It is some years since the Union meetings were held in South Wales, and nearly a score since they took place at Swansea.

CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIALISM AT LAMBETH BATHS.

Christianity and Socialism were again discussed last night at Lambeth Baths, with Professor Bryce, M.P., in the chair. After Bishop Barry's address, interspersed with a running fire of interjection and hostile comment, a number of persons sent in their names to be allowed to reply. The ballot resulted in favour of half-a-dozen Socialists and one Individualist securing the right to talk for seven minutes each. Amid a considerable amount of clamour, hard things were respecting the Bishop's definition of the proper limitations of the powers of the State and men's relations thereto and to one another. Christianity and its appointed teachers were also sharply criticised by the Socialist speakers, on whose side half of the audience seemed to be arrayed.

A TERRIBLE NIGHT ON THE SEA.

A man named James Mavin was landed at Sunderland yesterday by the steamer *Swallow*. He said a man named Henderson left the Tyne on Monday evening to seek their vessels. The weather became stormy and they were drifted about by the wind all night. The weather was bitterly cold, and the sea constantly washed over the bulwarks of their boat. Henderson at last became completely exhausted and lay down in the bottom of the boat, which gradually filled with water. He soon afterwards died. Mavin was rescued yesterday morning in a desperate condition.

NIHILISTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE TZAR'S PALACE.

Several arrests of Nihilists were effected yesterday in the neighbourhood of the Anitchkoff Palace, where the Tzar and the Imperial family are at present residing.

EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

A remarkable case of mistaken identity has occurred in Seacombe, where a woman thought to be dead, and upon whom an inquest was supposed to have been held, has turned up in full possession of her faculties. It is a Christmas story, since the alleged drowning took place on Christmas Eve during the festivities of the year, and on Boxing Day she was nowhere to be found. On the following day, however, the body of a woman was washed ashore at Seacombe, and a young man identified it as that of his mother, Catherine Reed, who had lived at Seacombe. The jury, of course, returned a verdict to the effect that Catherine Reed had been found drowned. In the meantime the insurance money had been drawn by her relatives, the coroner's certificate being evidence sufficient for that purpose. Nevertheless, on Saturday, Mrs. Reed startled her old-time neighbours by appearing in their midst and demanding from her son a share of the insurance money. Mutual explanations ensued, and it transpired that Mrs. Reed had been in the Brownlow-hill Workhouse since Boxing Day, and hearing that she was reported dead, she had written to her friends, but the identification of her supposed body by her son was considered sufficient justification for treating the communications as impostures. That they were not so has now been amply proved, and all that remains to be solved are the questions, What will be done with the jury's verdict? and how about the insurance money?

LORD VENTRIS.

It is understood that the title to be assumed by Sir William Field on his elevation to the peerage will be that of Lord Ventris.

LORD CLIFTON RELEASED FROM PRISON.

After ten days' confinement in St. Augustine's Gaol, Lord Clifton was yesterday brought before Judge Selfe in the District Court of Bankruptcy at Canterbury for public examination as a bankrupt. The Official Receiver read a summary of the statement of affairs, which showed a deficiency of £4,711 0*s.* 2*d.* Lord Clifton, interrogated by the judge, said his income had always been encumbered; it was not sufficient when he was at Oxford. Mr. Norton applied for the release from custody of Lord Clifton, who, he pointed out, had filed an affidavit expressing his sincere regret for contempt and his willingness to give all the information required. His honour granted the application, and also permitted his lordship to pass his public examination.

Snow fell heavily in Paris this morning.

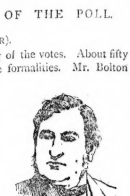
It is stated the *Heroine*, cruiser, and the *Wild Swan*, sloop, now at Devonport, will shortly be brought forward for commission.

THE NORTH ST. PANCRAS VICTORY.

SCENE AT THE DECLARATION OF THE POLL.

(FROM OUR OWN REPORTER).

It was an anxious time for all parties the counting of the votes. About fifty persons were privileged to be present to watch the formalities. Mr. Bolton looked anxious; if Mr. Graham felt any agitation it was hidden under his military moustache; Mr. Leighton amused himself with a book. A few ladies were upon the Vestry Hall platform. The pressmen crowded *à la* House of Commons into a gallery. Mr. Coningsby Disraeli, who has a studious stoop in his shoulders, was present, and was evidently excited. Of course the rival agents, Mr. Smith and Mr. Rowe, and Mr. J. Kenwick Seager, of the Liberal and Radical Union, were to the fore. At ten o'clock the ceremony seemed at an end, when Mr. Clarence Halse, the returning officer, ordered another count. This occupied three-quarters of an hour, and when Mr. Halse retired, accompanied by the candidates and their agents. As Mr. Graham went first it was whispered that fortune had favoured him. But a man who had backed Mr. Bolton for £12 10*s.* vigorously denied this. Just before the clock struck Mr. Halse declared Mr. Bolton elected, the figures being as follows:—



THE NEW MEMBER.

Bolton	2,657
Graham	2,549
Leighton	29

About 83 per cent. of the electors polled.

The results of the last two contests were:—

1885.		1886.	
Mr. T. H. Bolton (L.)	2,300	Hon. C. Cochrane-Baillie (C.)	2,074
Hon. C. Cochrane-Baillie (C.)	1,915	Mr. T. H. Bolton (G.)	1,813
Majority	465	Majority	261

There were wild cheers for Bolton, and soon the truth had leaked out to the great swaying crowd assembled outside the Vestry Hall. But first Mr. Bolton proposed, and Mr. Graham seconded, a unanimous vote of thanks to the returning officer, and they both heartily shook hands. Mr. Leighton looked foolish, and no wonder! No one ever thought that "Union Jack" would cut such an absurd figure at the poll. The returning officer next announced to the crowd the result, by holding up a placard bearing the figures. A scene of the wildest tumult followed, the enthusiasm being enormous. The police had the greatest difficulty in keeping the crowd away from the candidates when they appeared and again shook hands. The people had been wonderfully patient notwithstanding the heavy fall of snow at the time. The presence of mounted police in the throng calls for censure. They were not wanted, and the cheering and burning of coloured lights frightened their horses so that the animals became frantic, and must have injured some bystanders. From the vestry hall the newly elected M.P. and Mr. Graham went to their respective committee rooms, and briefly addressed their supporters. From Kentish-town Mr. Bolton went to the National Liberal Club. The scene at the National Liberal Club when the result was known was almost as lively as at the House of Commons. Indeed, the Club then became the party head assembled, and an informal congratulatory meeting was forthwith held in the smoking room. Mr. Causton, M.P., was voted to the chair, and sounded the note of triumph from the "romantic balcony." Then came a few words from Mr. Rowlands, M.P. Mr. O'Connor Power followed, and whilst he was speaking Mr. Bolton made his *entrée*. The "first love of North St. Pancras"—he who wooed and won the maiden constituency—was greeted with volleys of cheers. Mr. Bolton, who looked tired enough, made a graceful acknowledgment of the great service the members of the N.L.C. had done him. Mr. Hind, the chairman of the local caucus, followed in the same strain. Mr. Beale, a candidate for another division of St. Pancras, drew a moral from the election; and then, with a vote of thanks to Mr. Causton, proposed by Mr. Raphael and seconded by Mr. Howell Williams, all was over.

WHAT THE UNIONIST PAPERS SAY.

The *Times* says:—The result for the Unionists is one of those defeats which are all the more provoking because they have the appearance of having been avoidable. We are not in a position to determine what amount of truth there may be in rumours of careless registration, but the Gladstonian majority of 102 is one which certainly suggests the possibility that a different issue might have been attainable.

The *Standard* frankly admits that the loss of the seat is at once a misfortune and a disappointment. "Prestige counts for much in electioneering, and the unreflecting public are apt to measure the ebb and flow of party fortunes rather by realized results of this definite kind than by the indications which the figures, scrutinized with care, afford. A recount, however, would be idle, therefore, to treat the reverse save as something untoward and dispiriting."

The *Daily Chronicle* says the result "scarcely increases our gratitude to the *Times* and Sir Richard Webster and his colleagues, who were sapient enough not only to link our cause with the clumsily forged libels against Mr. Parnell, and who in the plenitude of their wisdom keep on day after day abusing a group of politicians as criminals and criminals from justice, or for being left in doubt whether to blame the incompetence of the police or the gullibility of Ministers of State who happen to know the secrets of the police for the ease with which the son of a duke can in this country commit crime and yet defy Scotland-yard. We fear St. Pancras has not been roused to enthusiasm by a Government which threatens to gag members of the House of Commons who decline to treat the utterances of a Prime Minister in the House of Lords as good Catholics do those of a Pope speaking *ex cathedrâ*. The hollow hypocrisy that runs through the whole debate on the Parnell Commission Report has also, it would seem, failed to fascinate the electors of North St. Pancras, who have been sadly puzzled to understand how they are to vote for the condemnation of certain Irish politicians as "criminals," and for the consolidation by a local government bill, propose to transfer most of the real control and administration of Irish affairs."

The *Daily Graphic* thinks "the events of the last twelve months, and especially the dramatic episodes of the Parnell Commission, are sufficient to account for a redistribution of electoral opinion, which would naturally make itself felt with decisive effect in a borough where the balance of parties is almost equal."

The *Morning Advertiser* observes:—It must be frankly admitted that the election has been to a large extent fought out upon the Irish question, and particularly upon that aspect of it which has been raised by the Special Commission and the report.

The *Daily Telegraph* tries to minimize the effect of the result. "The new voters at North St. Pancras," it says, "belong to a class readily influenced in the direction of what appears to be a struggle against oppression, or a conflict between rich and poor; and they have, in this instance, just turned the scale against Mr. Graham, who was certainly the best Conservative candidate to engage in the battle. It need hardly be said once again that in all such isolated contests it is always necessary to guard against the temptation to attach too much importance to the result as an index of general opinion throughout the country."

The *Morning Post* says nothing.

THE EXPLANATIONS OF PROVINCIAL UNIONIST JOURNALS.

If we count Mr. Leighton's votes (observes the *Sheffield Telegraph*), the Separatist majority over the Unionists is only 29, and the Conservative vote has increased by 504 compared with 1886, and by 765 as compared with 1885. It will thus be seen that the loss of yesterday will probably be made good at the next election.

The *Manchester Courier* observes that the Gladstonians have scored a victory of a sort, but they have not regained their position of 1885 by any means. And Mr. Bolton has succeeded in regaining his seat only by swallowing every fad offered to him by the crotchet-mongers of the Radical party.

The *Yorkshire Post* thinks the election will probably do more to influence the waverers in the House of Commons than all the arguments in Mr Gladstone's speech, plausible and eloquent as we admit that speech to have been.

According to the *Liverpool Courier*, "the constituency is fickle and unstable. The conditions were all in favour of the side which has won—it was a familiar friend against a stranger."

The *Birmingham Gazette* says:—"The Gladstonian party have for a long time been laying siege to the London boroughs, and their siege train has included some tolerably tempting bribes to the tradesmen occupying leasehold premises Our own impression is that the victory is largely a Laboucherian victory. The person who is familiarly and half-affectionately known to Cockayne as 'Labby' has always been an interesting personage to the average Londoner."

The *Manchester Examiner* thinks the result shows "the continuous and rapid growth of that section of the electorate which is hostile to Mr. Gladstone."

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS WEAK.—FOREIGN STOCKS FIRM. AMERICANS NEGLECTED.—SMALL BUSINESS.

Money is again worth 4 to 4½ per cent. for the day or a few days, while the discount rate for three months' bank paper is easy at 3⅝ per cent., with only a moderate business either in loans or discounts. A sharp recovery has taken place in the New York exchange upon London, and operators do not fear that any large amount of gold will be withdrawn from London for New York account. There is a general expectation that the Bank rate will be further reduced this week to 4½ per cent., if not to 4 per cent.

There is little or no improvement in the amount of business passing on the Stock Exchange, and strange to say, about the only department which shows any indication of firmness is that of Foreign Government securities. Consols are slightly higher to-day as money is easy, and business in Home Railway securities are generally lower, with the exception of Caledonian, which marks a fractional recovery after yesterday's severe fall. The changes, however, are to a large extent nominal. Advices that the gold premium at Buenos Ayres has given way slightly, the quotation now being 146½ per cent., have led to a sharp recovery in European and Buenos Ayres currency issues, Cedulas being up from 1 to 2½. European descriptions, too, are all higher, though not to any appreciable extent. There is no feature of interest in American Railroads, prices being dull and generally lower. According to reports from the other side, the managers of the Western roads are discussing measures for the settlement of the passenger rate troubles in the north-west. Trunks and Mexican Railway issues are rather irregular.

The letters of allotment of the United States Trust and Guarantee Corporation (Limited) have been posted.

The interview between the coal owners and the miners' delegates at Westminster has proved very unsatisfactory. The prospect of a strike seems nearer than when we left off last week, with the provisional time-limit now expired.

G. H. Hammond Company (Limited) is an American undertaking, with a share capital of £940,000, divided into 47,000 Eight per Cent. Cumulative Preference and 47,000 Ordinary £10 shares, besides £340,000 of Six per Cent. Mortgage debentures in bonds of £50 and upwards. The company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring the dressed beef and general business of George H. Hammond and Co., of Hammond, Chicago, Omaha, Boston, New York, and other places in the United States, and incorporating therewith the agency business of Mr. William Murray, of Smithfield (London) and Liverpool, Mr. Murray having a large interest in, and having for some years past acted as the European agent of, the Hammond Company.

RAILWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases*: Midland, £3,781; Great Eastern, £2,492; North Eastern, £7,237; Eastern and Midland, £96; Metropolitan District, £75; North Stafford, £14. *Decreases*: Lancashire and Yorkshire, £653; Metropolitan, £174.

TRAMWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases*: London Street, £295; London Southern, £23; South London, £98; Provincial, £43; London £566; North Metropolitan, £464; Belfast, £183; Southampton, £22; Sheffield, £77; Calcutta, £14; Bristol, £145; Gothenburg, £40; Imperial, £32; Sunderland, £31; Swansea, £19; Dublin, £294; and Edinburgh, £35. *Decrease*: Continental Metropolitan, £11.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a rather better inquiry. Probable sales 6,000 or 7,000 bales. Prices on the spot opened at half a point higher.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Caledonian ¼. *Receded*: Great Western, Sheffield Deferred, and Midland ¼ each, Chatham Ordinary, North Western, and North British Preferred ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced*: Argentine Cedulas "A" 2½, ditto "B" 1½, ditto Four and a Half per Cents. of 1888 ½, Buenos Ayres Cedulas "I" 2, ditto "J" 1, Brazilian (fully paid), ¼; French Three and Four and a Half per Cents., Greek 1881, Turkish Group I, and Uruguay Five and Six per Cents. ¼ each, Spanish Four per Cents. ⅜, Italian and Egyptian Unified 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Risen*: Milwaukee shares ¼, Lake Shore and Ontario shares ⅛. *Fallen*: Denver Preference, Erie Second Mortgage, Norfolk and Western Preference, and Wabash General Mortgage ¼ each, and Atlantic First Mortgage ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher*: Taltal ¼, Grand Trunk First and Second Preference ⅛, and Nitrate shares ⅛. *Lower*: Mexican First Preference ¼, Grand Trunk Third Preference and Guaranteed ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved*: San Donato Nitrate ¼, Primitiva and Tamaragal ⅛. *Receded*: San Pablo Nitrate ¼, Rio Tinto 3-16, De Beers, Eastmans Ordinary, and Elmore's Copper ⅛ each.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			
Consols(2¾)Money	97⅞	⅛xd	
Do. Account	97 7/16	3/8xd	
Do. 1905	99	½xd	
New 2¾ per Cents.	94⅛	5 xd	
Local Loans Stock	102⅛	⅜xd	
Bank 3½ per Cents.	108	½xd	
Do. 4½ p. c. Rn.	71	¼	
Egyptian Guar.	100	1 xd	
Bk. of England Stk.	343		
Met.Bd.Wks.3½p.c.	111⅛	12 xd	
Do. 3 p. ct. Scrip	102	⅛	
Birmingham 3½ p. c.	110	11	
Leeds 4 per cent.	117	13	
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	111⅛	12½xd	
Manchester 4 p. c.	125	8	

COLONIAL SECURITIES.			
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9	
Canada 3 p. c. Reg.	95	6	
Cape 4 p. c Conv Stk	97 7/16	11½	
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins.	110½	11¾	
Mauritius 4 p. c. Ins.	106	7	
Natal 4 p. c. C1897	103	¼xd	
N.S.Wales 1st 1867	105	15	
,, 3½ 1924	102½	3½xd	
NewZind3p.c.Cons.	100½	7½	
Queensland 4 p.c.Ins.	110	9	
S. Australia 5p.c.Ins.	109	10	
Victoria 4 p.c.of 1885	111½	13½	
W.Australia 4 p.c.Ins.	109	11	

FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentn 4½ p.c. 1932	77½	8½xd
Do. 3½ 1st Mtg.	28	2
Do. Cedulas A ..	45⅝	4½
Do. ,, B....	43½	2½
Austrian Gold	95	6
,, Silver....	74	6
Brazilian 4½ 1883..	65¾	¾
Do. 1889 (fully pd)	75⅝	6
Do. ,, (part paid)	70⅝	6dis
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1883	98	100
,, Cedulas "I	55	4
,, ,, "J"	31	2
Bulgarian	89½	90
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1889	102	4
Costa Rica A	93	2
,, B....	67	9
Ecuador, New	24¼	¼
Egypt. State Dom.	103⅝	¼
Do. Unified	94⅛	⅜
Egypt. Preferent.	96	⅛
Do. Dalira Sinith	84¾	⅛
French 3p.c. Rentes	87¼	⅜
Do. 4½ p.c. Rentes	104¼	⅜
Greek 5 p. c. 1881-4	78⅝	⅜
Do. 6 p. c. Mon.	75⅝	6
Hung. Gold Rentes	87⅛	⅜
Italian	92¾	⅛
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888.	93	⅛
Peruvian 5 p. c. 1872	17	⅜
Do. 6 p. c.	20¾	⅛
Portuguese	24	⅛
Russian 5 p. c. 1889	94	⅛
Spanish 4 p. c.	73	⅜
Turkish, 1854.....	102	4
Do. A	23¾	⅛
Do. B	24⅜	5/16
Do. D	18	⅛
4½ p. c. 1911	97⅛	8
5 p. c. Defence	102⅜	5
5 p. c. Priority ..	97	9
Uruguay Unified ..	72⅞	3/4
Do. 6 p. c. 1883 ..	85½	6
Virginia Funded ..	44⅜	6½
U.S. 4½ p. c.	105	6

BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Brighton Ordinary	155	7
Do. A	151¾	2¼
Chatham Ordinary	23⅝	⅜
Do. Preference	108⅜	9¼
Caledonian	123¾	4
Great Eastern	84	
Great Northern ..	130	2 xd
Do. A	103	4 xd
Great Western	162½	3/4xd
Hull and Barnsley.	37⅜	8¾
Lanc. and York. ..	163⅛	2¾
North Western....	176¾	3/4xd
South Western	134⅛	6½
Manch. and Shaff..	87	9
Do. A	47½	3½
Metro.Consolidated	75⅝	6½
Do. District	29⅜	30¾
Midland	142⅞	⅜xd
North Brit. Pref...	77¾	8½
Do. Def.....	61⅜	2⅜
North Eastern	164½	6
North Stafford	117	13
South Eastern	123	31
Do. Deferred..	105⅜	¾
Taff Vale	77	80

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific....	75½	6½
Central Pacific....	35¾	¼
Chic.Mil.and St.Pl.	68¾	9
Denver& R.Grande	16	⅛
Do. Preference	49½	9
Illinois Shares	117⅞	18½
Lake Shore	107⅜	⅞
Louis & Nash	87¼	8½
Mex. Nat. Ord.	19½	Mass. pd.
N.Y.Central Shares	109½	⅛
New York Ontario	18¾	⅜
N. V. Erie Shares	20½	½
Do. Second Mort.	103½	4
Norfolk& West. Pref	68⅞	3/4
N.Y.,P. & O.Ist M.	34	¼
North Pacific Pref.	75	⅛
Ohio & Mississippi	21½	⅜
Pennsylvania Sh...	55	⅛
Phil & Read Sh. ..	20	⅛
Union Pacific Sh. ..	68⅝	⅜
Wabash Preferred.	31	⅛
Do. Gen. Mort.	49¾	50¾
Grand Trunk Ord....	10⅝	11
Do. First Pref....	50½	⅜
Do. Second Pref.	30½	⅜
Do. Third Pref.	27⅜	⅜
Do. Guaranteed..	77	½
Mexican Ordinary ..	17¾	⅜
Do. First Pref..	17¾	17⅝
Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	75	⅜
Mexican Central ..	12¾	⅜
Mexican National ..	4¼	⅛
Lombardo-Venetian	11¾	⅞
Nitrate Railway ..	17	⅜
Taltal	4¼	5/16
B. Ayres & Rosario	104	8
Do. Great Southern	124	9
Central Argentine..	105	9
S. Paulo (Bras.) ..	44	6

BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	134½	15½
City Bank	22	3
Colonial	50	2
Consolidated Bank	2¾	⅛
Imperial	19½	⅜
Imperial Ottoman..	11⅜	⅛
London and County	88	89
Lloyds'	20½	⅜
Lon. and Westmin.	69	71
London Joint Stock	39½	40½
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	56	7
Provincial of Ireland	2¾	⅝
Stand. Bk. of S. A.	85½	6½
Union of London ..	40½	1½
National Discount	11½	12

TRUSTS.		
Fn. & Ct. Gov. Dt.	125	8
Gov. Stk. Invst. Dt.	112	15
Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	6½	7¾
Stock Conversion ..	1¾	⅜
South African Gold	2¾	⅜
Trus., Ex., & Sec.	2¾	¾

MINING & LAND.		
Indian Con. Gold	2/3	2/3
Mysore Gold	6¾	6 xd
Oregum Gold	2 1/16	3/16
Cape Copper	3 7/16	9/16
Namaqua	2	⅛
Mason & Barry....	6¼	⅜
Rio Tinto	15	⅛
Tharsis	4½	⅝
Montana	1 3/16	5/16
De Beers	16¾	⅜
Griqualand West ..	6⅛	6
New Jagersfon	1¾	⅛
City and Suburban.	6¼	7
Jumper's Gold	5¾	6¼
Jubilee	4¾	5
Rhodesia	3⅝	⅜
Salisbury.....	6	⅛
Sutherland Reef ..	3¾	4¼
S. Afin. Exploratn.	19¾	20¼
Do. New.....	21¼	Xmas
G. F. of Sth. Africa	4	⅛
Exploring Co.	15	⅛
Gold Fields Ind. ..	9¼	9¾
Southern Land	¼	⅛
Transvaal Land ..	¾	¼pm

TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE		
Anglo-American ..	49	50
Do. Preferred ..	63½	4¼
BrazilianSubmarine	12½	11
Direct UnitedStates	7	8
Eastern	13⅝	14¼
Do. Extension ..	13¾	14
Globe Telegr. Trust	8¼	⅜
National Trust	7	⅛

OMNIBUS AND TRAM		
Lon. Gen. Om.	185	95 xd
London Road Car..	5	¾xd
London Street	113⅛	12¼
London Tramways..	104½	18¼
North Metropolitan	153¼	⅜

WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterwks.	269	8
East London	211	15
Grand Junction	122	7
Kent.....	271	6
Lambeth.....	234	6
New River, New ..	360	8
Sthwrk & Vxhall..	164	9
Tarapaca	10¾	⅜
West Middlesex ..	269	5

GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT		
Gaslight & Coke A	248	8
Imp. Continental..	134	5
South Metropolitan	278	85 xd
Do. B	220	5 xd
Do. C	239	40 xd
London Electric ..	5	⅛
Metrpltan Electric	5¾	6¼

MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp's.....	6¼	7 xd
Bell's Asbestos	11¾	3/4xd
Guinness and Co...	346½	5 xd
Hotchkiss	7	⅛
Maxim-Nordenfelt.	2¾	⅜
Bryant and May ..	13¾	⅜
Eastman Ord	16¾	⅜
Elmore's Copper..	6⅞	7
Spratt's Patent	7¼	⅜
Liverpool Nitrate ..	12	14
Colorado Nitrate ..	¼	⅜
Primitiva Nitrate ..	1¾	⅜
Rosario	3	4
San Pablo	3¼	4¼
San Jorge	5¼	6¼
San Donato	3	⅜
Tamaragal.....	2	⅜
Salt Union Shares	12	⅜
Pan(Q.Street Def.	106	9
Royal Mail Steam	71	4
Hudson's Bay	20	¾
Suez Canal.....	90½	1
E. & W India Docks	16	18
Lon. & St. K. Dock	35	⅝

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

The result of the St. Pancras election had been forecast with remarkable exactitude by the Liberal managers. Yesterday afternoon Professor Stuart, who is now one of the leading authorities on London elections, was asked what the result would be. "It will be a close thing," he said, "but we shall win by sixty." Our actual majority over Graham and Leighton combined was seventy-nine.

***

Just before the end of Mr. Harrington's speech last night a large number of members rushed in—Mr. Herbert Gladstone at their head—with the result of the St. Pancras election. A great shout went up from the Opposition, and the Irish members stood and shouted themselves hoarse for several minutes, while the Speaker vainly cried for order. It was a scene of wild excitement, and Mr. Harrington's speech, sensational as it was, seemed to fall flat after it.

***

Last night Clubland was greatly agitated about the result. They waited long and they waited anxiously at the Constitutional, but the result came not. It tarried in the coming; and when it did come it was looked on as a mistake. Over the way at the National Liberal Club voices ran high and loud. When the mechanical newsbearer clicked out the winner there were vociferous cheers, and a little group waited on in the hall of the club to give greeting to the victor. He came at a quarter past midnight, and delivered his vote of thanks from the box in the smoking-room.

***

After the day's fight Mr. Bolton had little voice left. But he managed to say "Thank you" to everybody all round who had helped him. The battle had been fought and won, he said, over the Irish question. It was a success achieved not by the man, but by the cause. Any other man might have gone to the poll and won, he felt sure. The battle had been fought without personalities. Yet no stone had been left unturned by either party to ensure success. Help had come from every side, and he could but feel grateful to all his helpers, especially the Liberal ladies, who had done well—and hope in the next contest to do better. Mr. Bolton could not refrain from naming his friend Mr. Seager, and thanking Mrs. Gladstone and other friends, great and humble, for the loan of their carriages.

***

The dinner which is to be given to M. Eiffel and the French engineers to-night at the Grand Hotel by Mr. Forbes, of the Chatham and Dover Railway, will be memorable in the annals of the high cuisine. The Continent and Great Britain have been ransacked for delicacies wherewith to tickle the palates of the Frenchmen; and M. Leconte, the *chef en chef*, has explored every nook and cranny of his fertile brain for new effects. I hear of a liqueur which was born in 1809, or six years before the battle of Waterloo; the asparagus has been grown to order; the trout came alive from a certain Scotch lake, and—in fact, Lucullus meets Trimalchio to-night.

***

The author of "Parnellism and Crime" need not despair of yet gaining admission to the Athenæum Club. The club has blackballed him in an election of ordinary members; but why should not the committee elect him under the clause which admits to extraordinary membership a few select persons for "services to science, literature, or art"? The editor of the *Times* was elected not long ago under that clause. Surely the author of "Parnellism and Crime" is worthy of admission as a distinguished writer of fiction.

***

Education is said to be the light that lighteth every man in these days of Board schools and unlimited numbers of evening classes, but its rays have evidently not yet penetrated the great London station (which, by the way, is situated quite close to a great educational centre for men and women) where the following scene took place yesterday afternoon. A ticket collector, a guard, and a couple of porters were discussing the Forth Bridge, which formed a fine headline on the bills of the day's papers. "Why was it called the Forth Bridge?" asked these men of inquiring minds of each other; and, after a considerable debate, they agreed that it was no doubt because it was the *forth bridge of the kind* which had ever been built.

***

Baron Huddleston is adopting a dog-in-the-manger policy. He says he will not retire, though he can do so on a full pension, and yet he is unable to attend to his duties. He was absent twice last week from the Royal Courts of Justice, and he did not sit yesterday, nor is he in attendance to-day. This inconvenience to suitors is all the more felt because of the absence of the other judges on circuit. There has been no court for the trial of actions since last Friday. Baron Huddleston's proceedings show once more the urgent need for the compulsory retirement of judges when they attain a certain age.

***

Meanwhile, cannot Lord Salisbury come to the rescue by promoting the learned judge to the peerage? If Sir William Field, the deaf judge, were worthy of one, surely Lord Salisbury need not stick at Baron Huddleston.

***

Mr. H. H. Marks acted as leading counsel for the theatres and music-halls' interest at yesterday's meeting of the London County Council. Mr. Augustus Harris sat by his side throughout the debate, and coached him sedulously upon the various points raised. By his own speeches Mr. Harris caused much amusement to his jaded colleagues. In the discussion on Clause 39 he endeavoured to obtain a definition of the word "obstruction" as applied to the gangways and passages of theatres. At length he ventured upon a definition of his own. "Obstruction," he commenced, "is loose objects"—but at this point there arose a shout of laughter, amidst which the remainder of his definition was utterly lost.

***

Dr. Abbott, late Headmaster of the City of London School, is devoting his leisure on his retirement, to the study of the Bible. We may expect in consequence a book, but meantime he will share the fruits of his study with the members of his old profession. He takes a class on alternate Sundays, beginning March 9, at Toynbee Hall at 3.30, on the Interpretation of the Bible.

***

Mr. Lloyd Osborne, a relative and collaborator of Robert Louis Stevenson, arrived in Sydney from Samoa on January 16. Mr. Stevenson was to follow him in a month with the intention of travelling through Australia for the rest of this year, and returning to England in the early spring of 1891. Mr. Osborne reports the popular novelist's health to be better than it has been for some years past. In Samoa Mr. Stevenson had as his companion Mr. Joseph Story, the artist.

***

Mr. G. A. Sala is altogether wrong when he states in the first of his new series of "Echoes of the Week" that "Australia claims Vincent Wallace, the composer of 'Maritana,' as a son, since he was born in New South Wales, where his father was bandmaster in a British regiment in garrison at Sydney." The fact is, that Wallace was a native of Ireland, and emigrated to Australia in his early manhood. How he buried himself in the bush to the west of Sydney; how a lucky accident revealed his musical genius; how the Governor, Sir Richard Bourke, took him up, patronized him, and made him fashionable; how he travelled all over the colonies, and made money as a violinist; how he was captured by the Maories, and was within an ace of being sacrificed; how he afterwards barely escaped with his life from a mutiny in the South Seas—is all told in J. F. Hogan's history of "The Irish in Australia,' page 338.

***

Neither is Mr. Sala accurate in his statement that Charles Whitehead, the early friend and intimate of Dickens, Thackeray, Leigh Hunt, and Douglas Jerrold, and himself a poet, novelist, and dramatist, "died in a benevolent asylum at Melbourne." It was in the Melbourne Hospital he died, whither the irreclaimable Bohemian had been carried by the police, who picked him up insensible in the streets. Mr. Sala asks, Is it a fact that Whitehead had the first offer to supply the letterpress of "Pickwick," and that he generously recommended his young friend Dickens in his stead? Of course it is a fact: the whole of the circumstances are set forth in John Forster's "Life."

HATCHARDS, BOOKSELLERS, 187, PICCADILLY, W.—All the New and Standard Books discount, 2d. in the shilling. Post orders promptly executed.

PROFESSOR BLACKIE ON THE TEACHING OF GREEK.

HE WILL "SMASH ANY MAN WHO CONTRADICTS HIM."

At the seventh ordinary meeting of the Royal Society Professor Blackie delivered a discourse on "Phases of the Living Greek Language." Sir William Thomson presided. Starting with expressing a preference for calling his paper "The Living Continuity of the Greek Language," the Professor said it was a great deal of nonsense to say that modern Greek was corrupt. That opinion arose from ignorance among people who ought to know better, and was inexcusable in countries which made such a use of the Greek language. We were principally to blame for that vulgar idea floating in people's minds. We cultivated it almost as a dead language; it was utterly ridiculous; it was as alive to-day as ever it was, and as pure. We must have a radical reformation in the methods of teaching Greek in our Universities, because if the tongue was to be taught, it should be properly taught. What were the *a priori* considerations which made it impossible that the Greek could be a corrupted and base language? During the period from the fall of the Byzantine Empire down to the struggle for independence there flourished many learned ecclesiastics, lawyers, and historians who kept the language pure. Besides the language of the people was never fused with the Turkish or the Italian. Of course, a number of causes had operated towards the introduction of a few foreign words, which was inevitable in the march of time, and a few cases and moods had been altered; but since the rise of Greece in the '20's the natives had practically abandoned foreign words, and now the tongue was almost as pure as in the days of Homer. The Professor concluded his remarks by holding he had established his proposition, and declared he would smash any man who dared to contradict him.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S INTENTIONS AS TO THE COMMISSION REPORT DEBATE.

The London correspondent of the *Liverpool Post* hears on personal authority that Lord Randolph has as yet not decided, his disposition last night being to refrain from speaking. He is anxious to avoid the appearance of unfriendliness towards the Ministry at a critical time, and he makes no secret in private conversation that it will be difficult, practically impossible, for him to defend the line taken by the Government on this matter since the Commission was granted. Like Mr. Elliott Lees, who made a curious little speech last night, Lord Randolph points to the strong language in which Mr. Gladstone's amendment is couched as an excuse for not voting for it. He believes it is the right thing, but badly done. Why, he asks, should not Mr. Gladstone have proposed to add to the resolution a rider which would have fully effected his purpose of placing on record a vindication of the Irish members, and yet not have frightened off honest Conservatives like the member for Paddington? I fancy at the last moment Lord Randolph will be found walking into the lobby against Mr. Gladstone's amendment, and the only consolation Mr. Gladstone may find in this untoward circumstance is that the noble lord will be exceedingly uncomfortable.

THE KENTISH COAL SEAM THREE FEET THICK.

It has been disclosed by the borings that the seam of Kentish coal recently discovered at Dover is 3ft. in thickness. The quality of the coal is rather that of the Derbyshire fields. Borings are now actively going forward to discover the extent of the coal measures, which some practical geologists seem to think are very limited, only embracing a few acres.

EX-KING MILAN IN SPAIN.

The Exchange Telegraph Company's Bucharest correspondent says ex-King Milan of Servia is expected at Seville for Holy Week. He intends to visit the principal towns in Andalusia and the North of Africa.

LADY STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

An Exchange Company's telegram from Ottawa says it is announced there that the reason Lady Stanley, the wife of the Governor-General of Canada, is returning to England in the course of a week or two is that she is in very delicate health.

THE VANDERBILT OF MEXICO.

Don Louis Hueller, Mexico's Vanderbilt, will sail for Germany on Saturday to conclude negotiations with the German Government and several big syndicates, whereby immense tracts of land in the State of Chihuahua will be colonised by Germans. Prince Hohenlohe is at the head of the syndicate in Germany.

A WINDFALL FOR THE LAND NATIONALIZERS.

The Land Nationalizers have just received an intimation that an anonymous friend has purchased an annuity of £60 a year for ten years, which sum is to be devoted to the dissemination of their principles. The annuity is to be vested, under the title of the "Diogenes Fund," in the names of three trustees.

THE CHURCH UNION AND THE RUBRIC.

The annual meeting of the Manchester Branch of the English Church Union was held yesterday. A resolution was passed declaring, with reference to the recent proposals of the Dean of Peterborough, that the Union is "unable to existing accept any proposals which do not preserve intact and unimpaired the ornaments rubric, and recognize the authoritative sanction given by that rubric to the ritual used in the first Prayer-book of Edward VI."

LORD LAMINGTON'S PAPERS.

Lord Lamington's papers contain, it is said, a complete novel, which he would have published in the course of the autumn. There are also a number of manuscript poems and essays, but it is doubtful if any of these will now see the light. His lordship's correspondence, however, may not improbably be collated with a view to publication.

A CABLE TO NEW CALEDONIA.

Efforts are being made to arrange for the establishment of cable communication between Australia and New Caledonia. An officer of the French navy is said to have been deputed by the Government of New Caledonia to try to form a syndicate of Sydney and Melbourne capitalists to take up this matter and the construction of a dock at Noumea.

ACCIDENT TO MISS AMELIA B. EDWARDS.

Miss Amelia B. Edwards, the Egyptologist, fell down a flight of steps at Columbus, Ohio, on Monday, breaking one of her arms. She kept her engagement in the evening before a large audience, with her arm encased in splints.

MUSICAL MEMS.

There are three interesting concerts set down for to-day (Wednesday). Mdme. Backer-Grondahl, a pianist of more than average ability, will give a recital at the Steinway Hall in the afternoon, while Mr. Anton Hartvigson will also be heard at Princes's Hall. In the evening the Royal Choral Society perform Dr. A. C. Mackenzie's setting of Burns's poem of "The Cottar's Saturday Night" for the first time in London, and the same composer's "Dream of Jubal," which was produced at one of the Novello Oratorio concerts last year.

Although there is still a good deal of uneasy speculation rife concerning Mr. Gus Harris's next season of grand opera at Covent Garden, rumour is beginning to steady itself. As at present arranged, Signor Bevignani is not to succeed Signor Mancinelli, who will again be *conductor en chef*, but Signor Arditi. The chief novelty of the season will be an Italian version of Goring Thomas's popular "Esmeralda," and not "Tristan und Isolde," which may be considered as abandoned for the present. Wagner is to be represented by "Lohengrin," "Die Meistersinger," and perhaps "Tannhäuser." It is also contemplated to give "Hamlet," "Roméo et Juliette," and "Faust" in French.

May 16 is the date fixed for the return of Herr Bernhard Stavenhagen, Liszt's favourite pupil, to London. He will give at least one recital at St. James's Hall.

The programme of the concert for the Arabella Goddard testimonial fund which is to be given by Mdlle. Janotha on the evening of March 11 is as follows: Beethoven's "Egmont" overture and the Dance from the "Romeo and Juliet" music, composed by Mr. Cowen (Miss Mabel Anderson, by the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society); the "Gondoliera" duet, by Mr. and Mrs. Henschell; the triple concerto for pianoforte, violin, violoncello, with orchestra, by Beethoven, played by Mdlle. Janotha, Dr. Joachim, and Signor Piatti; Mdme. Schumann's "Romance," N. Janotha's "Gavotte," and Mendelssohn's concerto in G minor, played by Mdlle. Janotha; Bach's Sarabande, double, bourrée and double for violin alone, by Dr. Joachim; a largo and allemande for violoncello by Attilio Ariosti, played by Signor Piatti; and songs by Mdme. Patey, Mdme. Redeker Semon, Miss Liza Lehmann, Mdme. Antoinette Sterling, and Mrs. Mary Davies—altogether a very notable programme.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 4/5, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AT WORK.

WRITS SERVED UPON THE LADY-MEMBERS.

THE THEATRES AND MUSIC-HALLS BILL DISCUSSED.

Sir John Lubbock presided at the meeting of the Council yesterday. When Miss Cobden and Miss Cons entered the precincts of Guildhall they were served with writs, at the instance of Sir Walter De Souza, suing them for penalties alleged to have been incurred by sitting and voting as members of the Council. It was ascertained upon inquiry that the writs were issued by Mr. Beresford Hope's lawyer, acting for the occasion upon the instructions of Sir Walter De Souza. The ladies naturally felt that the personal service of those documents at the very doors of the Council-chamber was deliberately offensive. The matter was not in any way brought officially to the notice of the Council; but it excited much comment amongst the members to whom the action of Sir Walter De Souza was known.

THE THEATRES BILL.

For three hours and a half the Council was engaged in discussing the "Theatres (London) Bill" (No. 2). A preliminary skirmish took place over the question whether the bill should be treated as a whole, or be dissected and discussed in detail. The latter course was adopted after some debate, and the whole of the bill, consisting of fifty-two clauses, was subjected to the closest scrutiny. Upon Clause 1 Mr. Germaine moved that the bill should be referred back to the committee, denying that it was the duty of the "Stigginses and Mawworms" of the Council to look after the morals of the people. He proceeded to criticise certain proposals which he alleged were contained in the bill, referring specifically to Clause 21; but, upon being challenged, Mr. Germaine admitted, on reference to the printed copy, that his statement was inaccurate. Mr. Fardell (chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee) contended that the bill embodied all the concessions that could fairly be made. The objects and scope of the measure had been persistently misrepresented, and means had been adopted to foster misconception. It was desired to place theatres and music-halls under similar conditions. At present theatres were subject to serious penalties for indecency, but music-halls were exempt from any control save that represented by the possibility of a licence being refused. The Lord Chamberlain had expressed his approval of the proposed transfer of licensing powers from his office to the Council. No alteration in the law was contemplated; it was only proposed that places of public entertainment should be subjected to more stringent control. He pointed out that the clause requiring artistes to obtain licences had never been approved by the committee; it was a suggestion that had been made to them by Mr. Graham, the agent of the proprietors. Statements were, however, made in the bill alleging that performances without a licence was a part of the bill. If the word of public men was not to be believed, their position would soon become intolerable. He concluded by declaring that the committee were actuated by no feeling of hostility towards music-halls or their proprietors; but it was to their interest and to that of the public at large that the existing state of uncertainty in the law should be removed. Mr. H. H. Lawson suggested that the committee had been the dupes of the Machiavellian policy of the proprietors' agent, who had apparently endeavoured to make reform impossible by recommending outrageous restrictions. After criticising some clauses of the bill, Mr. Lawson added that sparsely attended committees might make mistakes which the Council would be called upon to correct, or subject itself to endless ridicule. Upon being put to the vote, Mr. Germaine's amendment was lost, and the Council proceeded to discuss the various clauses seriatim. On clause 4, Mr. Marks proposed to omit the passage restricting the performance of "stage plays" in music-halls to forty minutes' duration, and the number of performers to six. He pointed out that this regulation would render impossible the elaborate ballets presented at such places as the Empire and the Alhambra.

After a long discussion, the amendment was carried. Mr. Marks moved the rejection of clause 13, which provides that every person engaged in the performance of a stage play in an unlicensed building shall be liable to a penalty. He inveighed strongly against the harshness and injustice of this; but, on Mr. Fardell pointing out that the existing Theatres Act, 1843, contains a clause precisely analogous clause, Mr. Marks subsided amid general laughter. He subsequently moved the omission of clause 21, which subjects to a penalty proprietors and performers concerned in the presentation of songs or plays not "allowed" by the licensing authority. Mr. Augustus Harris pointed out that if the clause were carried the penalty would in many cases be incurred twenty times in one scene, for actors and singers were continually introducing "gag" into their business. It would either be a dead letter or it would have the effect of shutting up nearly all the theatres. Mr. Fardell, in reply, expressed his wonder that Mr. Harris should look so well, seeing that the clause in question had been in force for over forty years. The amendment proposing to strike out the clause was rejected by 54 votes to 24. Clause 23, providing that performers should be fined £20 for every offence against decency, was withdrawn by Mr. Fardell, it being represented that the proprietors should be made responsible. A long debate took place on section 3 of clause 26, conferring power upon the Council to appoint committees of inspection. Mr. Marks moved the rejection of the section, urging that, as paid inspectors were to be appointed, there would be no necessity for members of the Council to act as spies upon their own spies. The amendment was lost, but a proviso to the effect that such inspection should not take place behind the scenes during a performance was agreed to. After further discussion upon points of detail, the bill was adopted.

LABOUR PROTEST AGAINST HOLIDAYS.

The Trades and Labour Council of Sydney has passed a resolution condemning the indiscriminate proclamation of public holidays as a practice attended with great hardship to the working classes.

The Turkish Government has refused to accept the Belgian scheme for the suppression of the slave trade.

It is reported that the Russian Imperial family will make a journey to the Crimea in the coming spring.—*Reuter.*

Dvorák's new Symphony in G is to be produced at an early concert of the London Philharmonic Society.

Lord Herschell will preside at the annual dinner of the United Law Society, which takes place to-night at the Holborn Restaurant at 7.30 P.M.

Lord Salisbury, it is said, is disposed to ask Mr. Burt, M.P., to be one of the English representatives at the Berlin Labour Conference.

The members of the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 dined together last evening at the Hôtel Métropole, to commemorate the battle of St. Vincent (14th February, 1797).

In the House of Commons to-day the debate on the Parnell Commission Report will be resumed by Mr. MacNeill, and Mr. Asquith is expected to reopen it on Thursday.

While boring for an artesian well in the Dargaville district, Auckland, fine gold was found in a cement-like stuff which was passed through at a depth of 53 ft. The stratum was only one foot in thickness.

A complete medical and surgical staff equipment for a force of 10,000 men in actual warfare has recently been received from England by the Defence Department of New South Wales.

The butts at Wimbledon are being dismantled, and as it is bitterly cold for the men, a comfortable bonfire is here and there blazing, for which abundant materials are at hand in the staves of old casks, &c.

The valuable dramatic library of the late Mr. Frank Marshall will be disposed of early in May. In the collection, probably one of the finest of its kind, there is a copy of the "Boydell" Shakspeare.

"The Queen," observes *Truth*, "shows herself to be curiously and reprehensibly indifferent to the religious sensibilities of many of her subjects when she fixes the Lent Drawing Rooms for a Wednesday and a Friday."

According to the *Sheffield Telegraph*, Mr. Lane Fox has definitely refused to accept the invitation of the Liberals to contest the Central Division of Sheffield against Mr. Howard Vincent.

A well-known London member of the Society of Friends (says the *Manchester Guardian*) has just given the sum of £25,000, to be applied—one-fifth to establish and the remainder to endow a convalescent home for children at the seaside.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince George, and attended by Major-General Ellis, arrived at Marlborough House shortly after nine o'clock this morning from Scotland. The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Colonel Colville and Lieutenant-Colonel Poore, arrived at Clarence House at the same time.

"If it be true that the report of Lord Hartington's Commission on Navy and Army Administration recommends the abolition of the office of Commander-in-Chief, there will be a terrific row before the reform is carried out," writes *Truth*, "for the Queen and the Prince of Wales are bitterly hostile to any such change, although all experts are of opinion that the suggestion is a most sagacious and valuable one."

READERS LEAVING HOME TEMPORARILY can have the PALL MALL GAZETTE forwarded at the following rates:—Two weeks, 1s. 6d.; four weeks, 3s. SATURDAY'S SPECIAL 16-page Number in time for delivery by the EARLY SUNDAY MORNING, forwarded for 9d. per annum. Address, The Publisher, *Pall Mall Gazette* Office, Northumberland-street, Strand, W.C.

THE OPENING OF THE FORTH BRIDGE.

THE PRINCE FIXES THE LAST RIVET.

All yesterday forenoon there was an exodus of people from Edinburgh and the neighbouring towns to South Queensferry to witness the ceremony of opening the Forth Bridge by the Prince of Wales. The clear frosty weather of the last few days had given place to a dull sky and fresh westerly breeze, which tended to interfere somewhat with the success of the gathering. At a quarter to ten a specially invited company, including many distinguished engineers and the directors of the Midland and East Coast Railways, which are so largely interested in the success of the bridge, left Waverley station, Edinburgh, for the Forth Bridge station, where they arrived about half an hour after. At about the same time the Royal party left Dalmeny House, escorted by fifty dragoons, and was accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Gustavus of Wales, the Duke of Fife, and Lord Rosebery.

Upon his arrival from Dalmeny at the Forth Bridge platform, the Prince entered the special train, which was in waiting, with Lord Tweeddale, Lord Colville, Lord Hindlip, and other directors of the company, along with representatives of various public bodies both here and abroad, including M. Eiffel, the French engineer, and a party of thirty Frenchmen and Austrians. A few minutes' steaming brought the train to the bridge, and between lines of bluejackets and Marines, from the *Devastation*, guardship, the party made their northward progress. Away down below crowds of spectators on the river steamers waved their handkerchiefs as they saw the first trainload of passengers steam across the structure. Arrived at North Queensferry, the Prince and his party were received by a guard of honour of Artillery Volunteers, while crowds of people from the Fife villages occupied all places of vantage. Entering the gaily bedecked steam launch—*Dolphin*—and followed by the general party in the steamer—*John Stirling*—the Prince sailed out into the Firth, and viewed the cantilever piers from the water. His Royal Highness seemed much struck with all he saw, and expressed his astonishment at the magnitude of the work. Re-entering the train, the Prince returned across the bridge, and on reaching the centre of the northern girder he completed the bridge by fixing the last rivet. This was done by turning the valve of a hydraulic riveting machine, and then the Prince, the party, which by now had been swelled to larger dimensions by the arrival of another special train, proclaimed the accomplishment of the operation. Re-entering the train, the party proceeded to the south cantilever pier, where the Prince declared the bridge open by a few appropriate words.

HONOURS FOR THE CHAIRMAN, ENGINEERS, AND CONTRACTOR.

At the luncheon which followed the Prince of Wales gave an interesting description of the great engineering work they had just completed, on the fortieth anniversary of the completion of the tubular bridge over the Menai Straits. He said he had received a telegram from the King of Italy conveying information about the day's ceremony, and another from the Princess of Wales wishing success to the undertaking. The Prince announced that the Queen had conferred baronetcies upon Mr. M. W. Thompson, the chairman of the Midland railway and of the Forth Bridge railway, and Sir J. Fowler, the principal engineer of the bridge; and knighthoods upon Mr. Benjamin Baker, the joint engineer, and Mr. William Arrol, the contractor.

THE THREATENED STRIKE IN THE COAL TRADE.

CONFERENCE OF MASTERS AND MEN IN LONDON.

Yesterday an important conference of the Coal Owners' Federation met the representatives of the men on the wages question at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Mr. A. Barnes, M.P., presided, and there was a large number of masters present from all parts of the country. The men too, were largely represented, and headed by Mr. Pickard, M.P.

The chairman said the object of the meeting was to consider the question of the demand of the men for an advance of 10 per cent. in their wages. The masters did not see why that demand should be made, and they asked the men to give their reasons for it.

Mr. Pickard said he thought that the masters should give their reasons why they could not give the advance.

The chairman remarked that the difficulty was created by the men and they ought to approach their masters. They were there for business.

Mr. Pickard said this was nothing but fencing. They came there to hear what the masters intended.

Mr. Woods then proceeded to open the case for the men, urging that there had been an advance in the price of coals to the extent of 25 per cent. during the year. Mr. Findlay, for the North Western Railway Company, had given evidence before the Railway Rates Commission that there had been an advance of from 25 to 30 per cent., and Mr. Shaw, on behalf of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, said the increase was 4*s.* per ton.

The chairman asked whether the price paid before the rise was a paying price.

Mr. Woods said that was a question for the sellers.

Mr. Bidder, Q.C., pointed out that Mr. Findlay's evidence was given in November last, so that it could not apply to the end of 1889.

Mr. Pickard gave statistics of what the railway companies had to pay for their coal. The increase was 8*s.* 6*d.* per ton, and even in the coal districts the lowest increase had been 1*s.* 5*d.* per ton. He contended that in Yorkshire the men were justified in regard to the increase.

The chairman said that Mr. Pickard had not established that the masters had not been making profits before the recent increase. For three years he had not made a farthing profit.

Mr. Pickard replied by asking that the masters should accede 10 per cent. advance, so that the men might withdraw their notices.

Mr. Hewlett, a Lancashire coalowner, pointed out that the increase in the men last given was given prospectively before any increase could be earned. He adduced figures to show that the increase in prices has not been so great as stated by Mr. Pickard; and suggested that the application should be renewed later on.

A gentleman representing South Yorkshire somewhat severely criticized Mr. Pickard's remarks, and suggested the examination of the accounts of various mines with a view to finding out whether there was an increase in profits or not. Let them ascertain the true state of facts, and abide by it.

The gentleman representing Derbyshire said that his colliery had not made a single sixpence for the last three years. He had not experienced any of that increase of prices to which reference had been made. It was all a myth.

Further discussion followed. The offer of books and invoices was again made, but refused by Mr. Pickard. It was the prices paid by the public (he said) that had induced the men to ask for the ten per cent. demand.

A suggestion was then made by Mr. Pickard, that perhaps, if the men retired for a quarter of an hour or so, the masters might be inclined to make some sort of an offer. On the chairman stating that this idea was quite impracticable, Mr. Pickard summarily moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was at once agreed to. The proceedings, therefore, ended in a deadlock.

At a meeting of the coalowners' representatives, held after the conference at the Westminster Palace Hotel last evening, the following resolution was passed:—"Resolved: That, the owners having offered to the miners' representatives an inspection of their books, in order to ascertain whether the alleged advance in prices has in fact taken place to such an extent as to justify a further advance in wages, and the miners' representatives having refused to avail themselves of the only mode of establishing the actual facts, the full responsibility for the threatened strike must rest upon them."

THE CIVIL SERVICE AND A SEVEN HOURS DAY.

In the House of Commons last night, replying to Mr. Richard Power, who asked how the Government proposed to deal with the recommendations of the Ridley Commission respecting the higher division of the Civil Service, Mr. Goschen said he was engaged on a Treasury minute which could be framed with ease as regards future entrants, but presented difficulties of the most complicated character with regard to existing civil servants. The Royal Commission recommended that the hours of attendance in the six hour offices should be extended to seven for the future. It stated in the case of the higher division service clerks, that the required seven hours should not involve the time now given to lunch. The Treasury minute, however, prescribed compensation on a certain scale and within certain limits, but the higher division clerks pleaded that the compensation was not sufficient, and urged that the limits should be extended. The Royal Commission recommended that the salaries should be fixed at between £200 and £1,000. The Treasury accepted that scale as the maximum, though they decided to retain the various existing scales in the higher division within that limit. The higher division clerks urged that the proposed scale should be universally adopted. The Royal Commission strongly recommended that there should be a reduction in the number of the higher division clerks, and the clerks urged that this reduction should be carried out with regard to the reasonable prospects of promotion. It was obvious that if the demands of the higher division were conceded, they would result in a considerable augmentation of expenditure, which would be in direct opposition to the economical intentions of the Royal Commission. The Treasury were striving to carry out the recommendations of the Commission with respect to the reduction of the numbers without undue harshness to existing clerks. It was not an easy matter to find an equitable solution of the difficulties. He was unable to state when the Superannuation Bill would be introduced, but it would proceed on the same lines as the bill of last year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "PELICAN" AND THE "HAWK."

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—I notice in to-night's *Pall Mall* that "Mr. Lionel Hart represented Mr. Boyd, the proprietor of the *Hawk*," in the libel action brought against that paper yesterday. Permit me to inform you that I severed my connection with the *Hawk* last October, and am not now in any way connected with that paper. It will be quite time enough for me to attend to libel actions when they are taken against the *Pelican*, my own paper.—I am, dear Sir, yours obediently,

February 26. FRANK M. BOYD.

MR. KNOWLES'S FENIAN STORY.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—As some of the journals opposed to Ireland have tried to make capital out of the article in this month's *Nineteenth Century*, on the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, I venture to send you an extract from the *Glasgow Mail* of March 1st. If the exposure of this misrepresentation will lead our opponents to be more careful in the use of what seems to be their only remaining weapon—viz., personal accusations against the Irish people, some good will be done. It is just possible had this matter passed unnoticed, some one would have dis covered that these supposed Fenians were sent to do this work in the Army by Mr. Parnell and his colleagues because they themselves "*had not the time*."—Yours, &c.,

Vicarage, Sandgate. H. RUSSELL WAKEFIELD.

WOMEN AND THE PLANK BED.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—In the touching appeal made to the magistrate at the Dalston police-court on Tuesday last by Miss FitzHugh, the prisoner is reported to have said:—

> The magistrate might do as he pleased with herself, but if only he would be so kind as not to send her mother, who was very ill, again to lie upon the plank bed, which would kill her, she would be most grateful.

May I ask, Sir, if unconvicted and therefore presumably innocent women, or indeed, if women prisoners in any case, are condemned to the barbarous torture of the plank bed?—I am, Sir, your faithful servant,

The Colonial College, March 3. ROBERT JOHNSON.

THE SOMALI EXPEDITION.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—I was much interested by the description given in your issue of the 20th of the work done by the expedition to the Somali coast. In the summary of the condign punishment inflicted on the "predatory tribes of born fighting men" it is stated that 150 wells were destroyed. I have no doubt this was a perfectly justifiable proceeding, seeing that ours is a civilized and Christian Government, which would not allow any questionable action to be taken. One omission, however, surprised me. Your correspondent said nothing about the supply of water left for the innocent women and children. Of course—as lack of water means not only discomfort, but also loss of life to those who are not strong enough to range the country for themselves—their English sense of fair play would lead the expedition to remember the helpless ones, and leave a few small wells for them. I think it wise to point out that this must be taken for granted, or our enemies might say that, in our eagerness for revenge, we had forgotten that if there is a blessing "for a cup of cold water" given there might possibly—even for powerful England —be a curse for 150 wells taken away "from the least of these."—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

152, *Albert-road, Jarrow, Feb.* 24. W. JACKSON.

THE NOVELIST'S LIMITS.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Apropos of the very interesting description of "Literature as she is Wrote," and Mr. Justin McCarthy's views thereupon, in your yesterday's issue, but more especially as regards his remarks on the Linton, Hardy, and Besant contributions to the question of a greater realism in novels, I cannot refrain from sending the testimony of one of the most eminent representatives of French literature. It is a striking agreement with the Besant side of the question. George Sand says:—

> L'art n'est pas une étude de la réalité positive; c'est une recherche de la vérité idéale, et le Vicaire de Wakefield fut un livre plus utile et plus sain à l'âme que le Paysan perverti et les Liaisons dangereuses.

These words appear in the preface to "La Mare au Diable," considered by many to be the chef-d'œuvre of the writer, and the whole of what is said therein goes to prove the same expression of opinion written by George Sand in maturer years, when right away from the impressionable metropolis of France she was meditatively enjoying the natural life in the purer country districts. The power of her testimony is still further enhanced by her references and contrasts to the precedents of art and romance in former ages with their perversions and its results in her own.—I am, &c., J. RYE.

107, *Westbourne-grove, Sunday, Feb.* 23*rd.*

"LOOKING BACKWARD."

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Has it occurred to any of your readers to make a comparison between the economical theories put forward in Mr. Bellamy's book and those of Professor Ruskin? I do not suggest for a moment that Mr. Bellamy obtained his ingenious ideas from the works of the latter gentleman; but my object in trespassing on your space is to draw attention to a very remarkable similarity of views. In "Munera Pulveris" Mr. Ruskin takes precisely the same view of the real meaning of the term "wealth" as does Mr. Bellamy; and, moreover, on page 38 (ed. 1886) of the book just referred to the following passage occurs: "40. Let us suppose a national store of wealth, composed of material things either useful, or believed to be so, taken charge of by the Government, and that every workman, having produced any article involving labour in its production, and for which he has no immediate use, brings it to add to this store; receiving from the Government in exchange an order either for the return of the thing itself, or of its equivalent in other things, such as he may choose out of the store, at any time when he needs them." And Mr. Ruskin goes on to examine the conception fully. Many other instances might be quoted did space permit; but I wish only to give this one as an example of the way ideas, which have been for years before the public if they only knew, will be seized on with avidity, and hailed as new and original discoveries if judiciously seasoned and offered at the right moment.—Yours obediently,

South Kensington Museum, 24 Feb. EDWARD F. STRANGE.

"HUSTLERS" AND HUSTLING.

The following is an extract from a letter recently received from New York:—

> They have a word here to describe the typical New York man. They say he is a hustler. It is a word very difficult to translate, but it means a person in a condition of nervous hurry, and they are all hustlers here. The babies are hustled into the world before their time, and the corpses are hustled into the cemetery before they are cold; they hustle into matrimony and, above all, into divorce; they hustle their buildings up, and the buildings often hustle themselves down; they clip the language and leave the "u" out of such words as Gloucester for the convenience of the hustler; they hustle in their eating and in their drinking, and seem much surprised when their digestions refuse to hustle too; they hustle the overcrowded cars when others are close behind; in fact, they hustle for the sake of hustling. Nellie Bly's voyage round the world in seventy-five days is an ideal American pleasure trip; seventy-four days would be more enjoyable still (she has actually hustled through in seventy-two); they like to keep their bodies in a fever, and their minds in a St. Vitus's dance. Mrs. X. says with great pride that her husband is a hustler, and so indeed he is, and that is one of the causes of our misfortunes; if he would not hustle quite so much in making his contracts, nor hustle his "notions" on the market before they are matured, we should be a great deal better off; however, it can't be helped; it is in the air; we are all hustlers here, and I remain, your hustling son. . . .

WOMEN'S PENNY PAPER.

EVERY SATURDAY.

This is the only Paper which is published with the avowed end of directly representing the views of Women. Political, Social, and Religious questions are treated from this standpoint. The need for a Paper of this kind has long been felt, for there is no question of national importance which does not affect the welfare of Women as closely as it affects the welfare of Men. It is intended that "**The Women's Penny Paper**" shall become a medium for the expression of opinion on all subjects for all women. An interview, with Portrait of Women of the Day.

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THE
G. H. HAMMOND COMPANY
(LIMITED).

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1883.

Amalgamation of the Important Cattle and Fresh Meat Businesses of GeorgeH. Hammond and Co., of Hammond, Omaha, and other places in the United States, and the Argentine Business of Mr. William Murray of (Smithfield) London and Liverpool.

SHARE CAPITAL £940,000,

divided into

47,000 Eight per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £10 each £470,000
47,000 Ordinary Shares of £10 each £470,000
and
£340,000 of Six per Cent. Mortgage Debentures.

The Shares will be payable as follows, namely:—

10*s.* per Share on Application.
£4 10*s.* " " on Allotment.
2 10*s.* " " the 1st of May, 1890.
2 10*s.* " " the 1st of July, 1890.

£10 0

The Debentures not taken up by the Vendors have already been applied for.

TRUSTEES FOR DEBENTURE HOLDERS.
The Central Trust Company of New York.

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AUDITORS.
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SECRETARY (*pro tem.*).—HENRY TRUMAN, Esq.
TEMPORARY OFFICES.—Dashwood House, New Broad-street, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring the Combined Beef and general business of George H. Hammond and Company, of Hammond, Chicago, Omaha, Boston, and New York, and other places in the United States, and incorporating therewith the agency business of Mr. William Murray, of Smithfield (London) and Liverpool, Mr. Murray having a large interest in and having for some years past been the European Agent of George H. Hammond Company.

The business, which has for some time past been under the active management of Mr. G. W. Simpson, has increased largely that it is now the third largest Dressed Beef business in the World.

The business consists of slaughtering cattle, hogs, sheep, and calves, at Hammond and at Omaha, in the Western Districts of the United States, nearer the places where the animals are reared, and exporting the carcases of fresh meat in their special Refrigerator Cars and Steamer Refrigerators, either to the Wholesale Markets in the Eastern United States, or to Europe.

The Hammond Company have two large factories and slaughterhouses, one at the City of Hammond (which has grown up around the Abattoirs), twenty miles from Chicago, on the main western main line and in direct railway communication with the stock yards of Chicago, and the other at Omaha, the largest market for cattle and hogs in the world; the other at Omaha, at the great centre of the cattle trade.

HAMMOND.

The Abattoirs and the buildings, and other property connected therewith, with a capacity for killing and treating 2,000 animals a day, are situated on 102 acres of freehold land, with nearly a mile frontage on the Calumet river, and comprise, in addition to the Abattoirs, various buildings, sheds, cattle pens, car repairing shops, galvanized iron and tin shops, oleomargarine factory, chemical works, with a boiling capacity of 140,000 tons, blacksmith's shop, markets for supplying the adjacent town, three good residences, and four tenement houses.

The plant and machinery consists of refrigerator buildings, steam engines, placed by 14 boilers of a total of 1,000 horse-power, various auxiliary and portable engines, machinery plant for handling and packing meat, elec factory, and all the special machinery for utilizing the various products.

Owing to the extensive refrigerator storage, the Company is enabled to obtain and store immense quantities of animal fats, the most nominal cost, which is used in the refrigerator buildings and for cooling the cars.

OMAHA.

The Abattoir and buildings in connection therewith cover about eight acres of freehold land, and comprise, in addition to the Abattoir, various buildings, sheds, cattle-pens, ice-houses, refrigerator stores, &c.

The plant and machinery at Omaha consists of refrigerator buildings, steam engines, placed by 10 boilers of a total of 540 horse-power, fertilizer works, oil factory, and other plant and machinery necessary for conducting the business.

The Abattoir and Yards at Omaha are situated at the Stock Yards or Cattle Market there, which are connected with the Union Pacific, and with the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroads, which places the undersigned in direct connection with all the Railway Systems of the States and Canada.

In connection with these large Abattoirs there are throughout the States 97 principal Receiving Stations to which meat and meat products are daily shipped. Some of these are leased or partially owned by the Company.

The Company own no less than 765 Refrigerator Cars, each carrying from 50 to 55 carcases of dressed beef, which are for the conveyance of the fresh meat and other products.

The Company also own thirteen Refrigerator Compartments or Flats, fitted up on the following steamers, which bring this fresh meat from Boston and New York to Liverpool and London:

The Samaria and Scythia of the Cunard Line, the Bavarian, Germanic, Britannic, Teutonic, Persian, Virginian of the Leyland Line, and the Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Norseman, Palestine, and Roman of the Warren Line for the Boston and London compartments on the Catalonia, Cephalonia, and Pavonia of the Anchor Line, and the other compartments are being built by the Steamship Company on the Aurania and Servia, under agreement with the Hammond Company.

Several of these Refrigerator Plants are of very recent date, and others are being built to increase the business of the Company.

The Company have in their employ on an average over 1,300 men, while the magnitude of the business will be understood from the fact that the average number of cattle killed by the Hammond Abattoirs average 1,000 head each working day, besides hogs, sheep, and calves, while the daily average at the Omaha Abattoir is at present 2500 head of cattle and 700 hogs per working day.

Amongst other statistics it may be mentioned that there are shipped from Hammond 85 car loads of fresh meat per day, while 1ddes were sold to an extent of 1,500,000 lbs. in the year ending 30th June, 1889.

As showing the growing character of the business, the following list gives a comparison of the number of head of cattle, hogs, and sheep killed by the Company for the last three years:—

Year ending June 30.	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
1887	292,710	163,270	23,568
1888	360,402	144,478	2,733
1889	430,688	185,877	25,808

Quantity of Beef shipped in Liverpool—

1886-7	23,200,488 lbs.
1887-8	25,050,143 "
1888-9	30,321,288 "

Both the Export Market and the Home Trade is rapidly increasing, and will of necessity be largely increased, this being comparatively a new industry, in the hands of a few.

Under contracts presently described, Mr. John Van Dusseen Reed, the Vendor to the Company, has purchased the right, on the whole of the Share Capital of George H. Hammond and Co., with all profits accruing thereon from 30th June, 1889, the present holders being entitled to a division of the profits made up to that date.

Mr. Simpson, the General Manager of the Hammond Company, has agreed to continue to act in that capacity for a term of three years.

The Agency Business of Mr. William Murray has been acquired by Mr. J. V. Reed, the Vendor to the Company, as from 3rd March, 1890, upon the terms of a Contract of the 20th February, 1890.

Mr. Reed also reserves for the right of subscribing for, and in that case of having allotted to him on the terms of this Prospectus, one-third of the Share Capital, including the Shares agreed to be taken by the shareholders of George H. Hammond and Co., and the Agency Business of Mr. William Murray, and in Debentures and Shares.

This being a Trading Company, it is not desirable to indicate the numerous sources of profit, but Messrs. Price, Waterhouse, and Co. have made an examination of the Books of George H. Hammond and Co., and of Mr. William Murray, and have verified the accounts at 6.8*s* in the £, as follows:—

Year 1887-87	£111,333 4 8
" 1887-88	129,005 12 3
" 1888-89	147,260 2 11

We are, Gentlemen, your obedient Servants,
PRICE, WATERHOUSE, and Co.

Taking the profits of 1888-89 as the basis of calculation for future profits, the figures will stand as follows:—

To pay 6 per cent. on the £340,000 Mortgage Debentures will require per annum £20,400
To pay 8 per cent. on £470,000 Preference Shares will require per annum 37,600
To pay 8 per cent. on £470,000 Ordinary Shares will require per annum 37,600
£95,200
leaving a margin of over £14,000.

The statements in this Prospectus are made upon the authority of information furnished by the American Vendors, and of Messrs. Price, Waterhouse, and Co., who examined the books.

The following contracts have been entered into:—

Contract between George H. Hammond and Co., and dated 11th February, 1890, all made between Andrew Borneck, James C. Olvis, Charles E. Simpson, Henry L. Millis, George Hotchkiss, and Edwin Chapman of the first part, John Van Dusseen Reed of the second part, and the Company of the third part, for the sale to the said John Van Dusseen Reed of the Share Capital of the said George H. Hammond and Co. Contract to act as General Manager of the Company, dated 20th February, 1890, between the said G. W. Simpson of the first part and the said John Van Dusseen Reed of the second part. Contract dated the 20th February, 1890, between William Murray, of the one part, and the said J. V. Reed, of the other part, and the said Mr. Murray by the said William Murray to the said J. V. D. Reed, of the business above described. A Contract dated 3rd March, 1890, between the said J. V. D. Reed, of the one part, and the Company of the other part, for the said Mr. Reed to sell to the Company of the said business and shares agreed to be purchased by him under the aforesaid Contracts (less the interest he has retained) at a profit, Mr. Reed paying all expenses attending the incorporation and registration of the Company, and also all underwriting, brokerage, printing, advertising, advancement, and expenses attending the formation of the Company up to and including allotment. Other arrangements have been entered into with various persons with reference to the division of the profits which may accrue to them over and above the profits up to the 30th Section of the Companies Act, 1867. There are also various Contracts entered with the Business as going concerns, which from the nature of the business it might be injudicious to publish, all applicants for Shares and Debentures be deemed to waive the insertion of dates and names in the Articles of Association and various other contracts, and in order to prevent any questions must accept the above statement as a sufficient compliance with Section 38 of Companies Act, 1867, and otherwise.

Forms of Applications and Forms of Application can be obtained at the Offices of the Company, or at the Offices of the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors.

4th March, 1890.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION (LIMITED).

HEAD OFFICE: 40, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C. Branches: 37, Sackville-street, W.; 69, Cannon-street, E.C.; and 8, Old Broad-street, E.C.
EDINBURGH OFFICE: 23, St. Andrew-square.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.—Australia, India, Ceylon, China, Japan, Straits, Madagascar, Mauritius, Egypt, Constantinople, Athens, Paris, Lyons, San Francisco.
The Bank receives Deposits for three years at 3 per cent., also for shorter periods, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally.

THE BANK OF AFRICA (LIMITED).
Head office, 115, LONDON-STREET, LONDON.
Subscribed Capital, £750,000; paid up, £250,000.
Reserve Fund, £75,000.
General Manager, JAMES STEVENSON. Port Elizabeth, Branches: Aliwal North, Cape Town, Cradock, Grahamstown, Kimberley, King Williams Town, Graaff Reinet, Durban, Queen's Town, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Fauresmith, Winburg, Harrismith, Pietermaritzburg, Barberton, Johannesburg, Pretoria.
The Bank transacts every description of banking business, buys and collects bills, and conducts all kinds of banking business.
Deposits received on terms which may be ascertained on application. R. C. DAVIS, Secretary.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1836.
LONDON: 1, Moorgate-street, E.C.
ABERDEEN: 1, Union-terrace.
INCOME AND FUNDS (1889).
Fire Premiums £615,000 | Life Premiums £393,000
Interest £149,000
Accumulated Funds £5,261,000

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Mutual Assurance at Least Cost.
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London Bridge (City) ..... " 9.0 P.M.
Paris (St. Lazare) ..... arr. 8.0 A.M.

PARIS TO LONDON (1, 2, 3 Class).

Paris (St. Lazare) ..... dep. 8.50 P.M.
London Bridge (City) ..... arr. 7.40 A.M.
Victoria (West-end) ..... " 7.50 A.M.

Fares—Single First, 36s. 7d.; Second, 25s. 7d.; Third, 16s. 7d.; Return First, 58s. 5d., Second, 42s. 5d., Third, 30s. 5d.

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(By Order)
A. SAMLE, Secretary and General Manager.

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	Tons.	H.P.	
ORIENT	6,505	6,000	March 11
LUSITANIA	5,377	4,000	March 28
OROYA	6,057	7,000	April 11
ORIZABA	6,077	7,000	April 25
LIGURIA	4,648	4,200	May 9
ORMUZ	6,031	8,200	May 25

Loading Berth, Tilbury Docks.
Fares from £17 17s. to £70.

Managers, F. Green and Co., 13, Fenchurch-avenue, and Anderson, Anderson, and Co., 5, Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C. For freight or passage apply to the latter firm; or to the West-end Agents, Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

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For particulars apply to the Secretary.
F. H. ROCKE.

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J. S. HEYMAN, Sec. I.U.C.S. Association.
No. 45, Pall-mall, S.W., Feb. 20, 1890.

THE EARLSWOOD ASYLUM for IDIOTS and IMBECILES, Redhill, Surrey. The ANNUAL DINNER of this Charity will be held on WEDNESDAY, March 12, 1890, at the Hôtel Metropole, Whitehall-place, W.C.,

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